

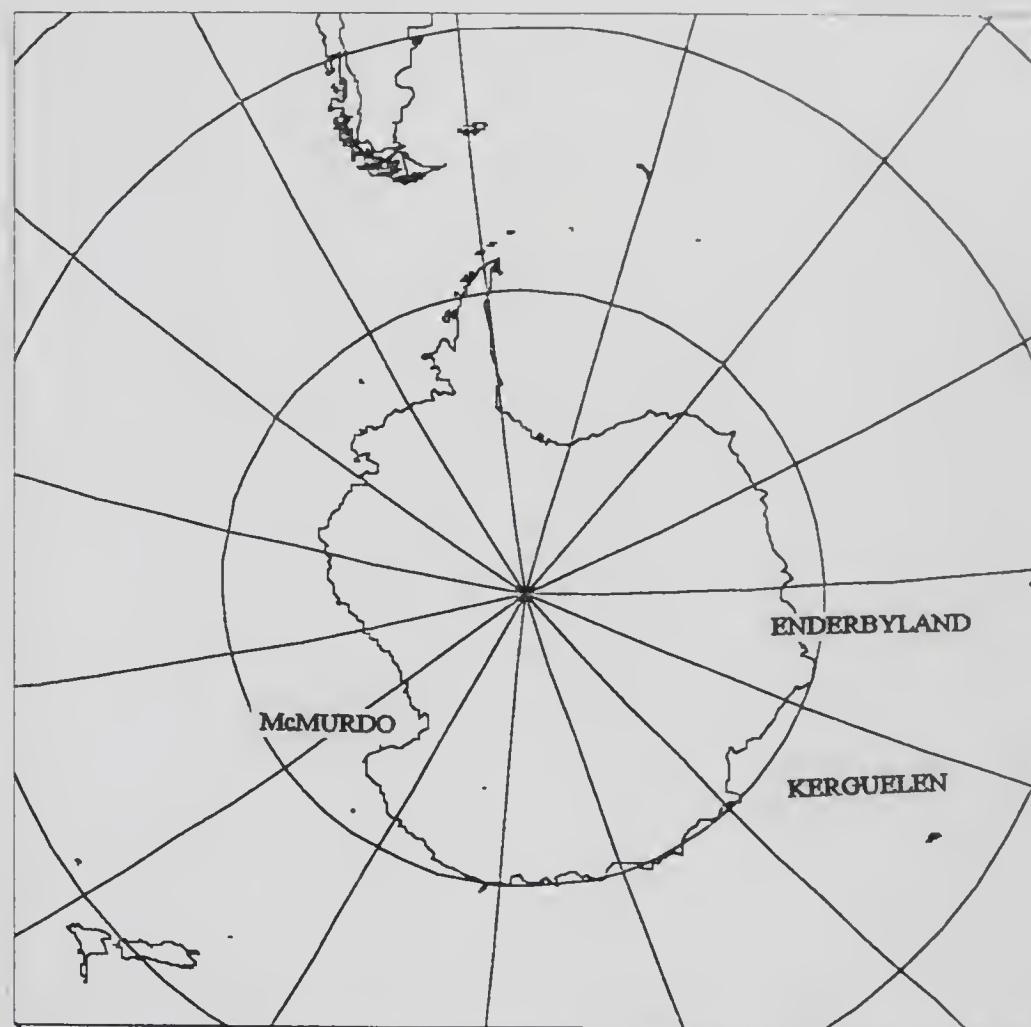
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VOLUME XIX, NUMBER 1.

JANUARY, 1997.

## ANTARCTIC PATTERNS

The continent of Antarctica has never had its own coinage. Guess there is that minor technicality that penguins and seals don't have opposing thumbs. It appears that the romantic era of exploration is over, and the Antarctic will not be exploited until other sources of natural resources have dried up. While a continent for science is fine when natural resources are relatively abundant and cheap, call me a cynic, but mankind will rape and pillage the Antarctic when the need arises.



One man has taken it upon himself to design coinage for selected regions of the Antarctic. Fred R. Zinkann of Illinois has designed and struck three "coins" for Kerguelen Islands, McMurdo Sound and Enderbyland. They are not only attractively designed, they are very innovative for their use of exotic metals. All "coins" have his initials FRZ.

The Kerguelen Islands are sub-Antarctic islands in the Indian Ocean. Administratively, they are part of Terres Australes et Antarctiques Françaises (French Southern and Antarctic Territories). In 1992, France issued a pair of 100 Franc coins making note of these territories. The Kerguelen Islands were well known to the sealers and whalers of the 1800s. An account of this commercial activity can be found in "Master of Desolation" by Captain Joseph J. Fuller, including his crew being shipwrecked in the islands. In 1908, a Norwegian company established a shore based whaling operation (similar to South Georgia), but this was deemed commercially unsuccessful, and was closed in 1911.

More recently, the islands have been the site of a French research base. While not as harsh as the Antarctic continent, the climate is not very hospitable. Currently, the only commercial activity on the islands involves fishing, with catches landed in the islands exported to France and Reunion.



In 1981, Fred Zinkann designed a 25 Franc "coin" for Iles Kerguelen. The obverse has the legend "Iles Kerguelen-Paix" and a stylized southern cross. The reverse symbolizes the courage of the heart rising through difficulties, with the denomination of 25 FR, and metal content. Only 3 pieces were struck in tungsten by Wendells of Minneapolis. Two were

(continued on Page 3)

## EDITORIAL

Welcome to our 19th year! Our thanks to you who have been prompt in paying your subscriptions. A few have not done so, and a reminder is enclosed with this issue. If you choose not to subscribe, this will be your last issue. We would like to thank you for your support, and hope that in the future we will be able to serve you again.

Our thanks to Fred Zinkann for providing the information on his Antarctic "patterns". Fred has made other "patterns", one a Half Eagle, struck in gold, hafnium, silver and tungsten, that is listed in the "Semi-Official and Private Patterns" section of United States Patterns and Related Issues by Andrew W. Pollock III.

1997 should be interesting. Jerry Remick is looking for a big year in Newfoundland numismatics. The Alaska Mint will be issuing their usual run of medals. Discovery of unreported Alaskan tokens is slowing, but just when you think nothing else will pop up, something does.

As always, we hope that you will see fit to share information with your fellow subscribers.

The last page of this newsletter has a mail bid auction of Alaskan transportation tokens and gambling chips. It has a closing date of Feb. 25, to coincide with the next issue of TACT. Our large auction in March will feature Alaskan gold nugget tokens and native copper tokens, plus a few odd rarities. In April, we are planning a mail bid of Alaskan military tokens. After that, we will see. See the next column for our "Alaskan Token Want List Service". This might be a good way to add to your collection!

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**Alaskan Token Collector & Polar Numismatist**, published 10 times per year, is a publication of Alaska Rare Coin s. All articles remain the property of the authors and may not be reprinted without their consent.

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Editor - Dick Hanscom

Associate Editor - Jerry Cleworth

Anchorage Correspondent - Kurtis Hawk

Canadian Correspondent - Jerry Remick

Yukon Correspondent - Jim Robb

Scandinavian Correspondent - Jorgen Somod

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1/5 page, business card size - \$15 for 5 issues.

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## BOOK REVIEW

Atlin: The Story of British Columbia's Last Gold Rush, by Christine Frances Dickinson and Diane Solie Smith, soft bound, 379 pages, published by the Atlin Historical Society, 1995.

We just learned of this book a couple of months ago, and our small order arrived before Christmas. As many of you know, Atlin is just south of the Yukon border. The gold strike at Atlin was fairly contemporary to the Klondike strike, with gold being found at Atlin in the summer of 1898.

The book is comprehensive, covering every facet of the history of Atlin from before the gold rush to being a tourist destination. Gold discovery, labor unrest, politics and commercial activities are but a few of the topics covered.

Sources are cited throughout, with footnotes numbering to 1376. The book is abundantly illustrated with period photos, and several maps. The index is a quick source for finding specific information.

These are available for \$25 Canadian plus postage from the Atlin Historical Society, P.O. Box 111, Atlin, B.C. Canada V0W 1A0. We have two left, and will sell in the US for \$23, postpaid.

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## ALASKA TOKEN WANT LIST SERVICE

As some of you know, we will be auctioning a large collection of Alaskan tokens. Some were in our October auction, and others will be in the auctions mentioned in the editorial. Some tokens do well at auction, while others do not.

At this time, we will provide a limited want list service. You may submit want lists of no more than 10 tokens. No R-7 or R-8 tokens, as we anticipate having these go to auction. Requests must be in writing. Please use Benice numbers. We will respond to what is available, and price them. You may accept or reject our offers.

This way, we spread out some scarcer tokens, hopefully to many collectors. At a later time, we may accept additional lists of 10 tokens, but want to see how this goes. This could be a great way to expand your collection. We hope that many of you take advantage of this offer.

## ZINKANN "COINS", Cont.

struck from the first die before it broke, and a third from a second die, the die breaking on the first strike. One specimen is in the ANA museum, while the other two are in private collections.

McMurdo Sound is the site of the largest "settlement" in the Antarctic. It is the main scientific base, as well as the central supply point for all U.S. scientific bases on the Antarctic continent. It is also utilized by many scientists from other nations.



1987 was the 30th anniversary of the International Geophysical Year. In 1957, many nations took part in a world wide scientific program. Part of this program was the establishment of over 50 scientific stations in the Antarctic and on sub-Antarctic islands. The design shows the winds hitting McMurdo station among the mountains that somewhat shelter it. The McMurdo coin carries a \$10 denomination, with the legend "Where all dominions and directions meet through wind and ice umbrage." The central design is a snowflake crown and icicles. These were struck in tantalum (a rare dense metal), silver and pewter (from melted cups). These were minted at Pressed Metal Products of Vancouver, B.C.

The last "coin" was issued in 1990 for Enderbyland. The intention was to issue a gold sovereign for British Antarctic Territory. Unfortunately, Enderbyland misses the mark, as it is near the boundary of Norwegian and Australian claims!



This portion of Antarctica was discovered by John Biscoe in 1831. Biscoe was a whaler/sealer in the employ of Enderby Brothers of London for whom the land is named. Biscoe's discovery confirmed a large land mass in the Antarctic, and he was one of the first to circumnavigate the continent. Enderby Brothers is remembered for their less than commercially successful whaling and sealing voyages, but also because they encouraged their captains to search out new lands.

One specimen was struck in gold from melted British sovereigns. Others were struck in silver, molybdenum and titanium. These medals were made at Alpha Die and Engraving, Franklin Park, Ill.

The obverse is a stylized southern cross. The reverse is the runic symbol for eternity, with flames, surrounded by the runic symbols for life  $\text{Y}$  and death  $\text{A}$ . The eternity symbol joins the two - "Eternally snow and ice bound." The denomination flanks the eternity symbol, with the statement of metal content, .995Mo on all coins regardless of metal. Mr. Zinkann had planned on striking more in molybdenum, but ran out of money for the project.

### Check list of Fred Zinkann's Antarctic Coins:

	Date	Metal	Dia.	Quantity
Kerguelen	(1981)	Tungsten	23mm	3
McMurdo	1987	Tantalum	25.5mm	7
		Pewter		25
		Silver		50
Enderbyland	1990	Gold	25.5mm	1
		Silver		20
		Titanium		3
		Molybdenum		15

## WHITE RIBBON SELLS



A Great Britain Arctic Discoveries Award Medal recently sold in the Dec. 10, 1996 sale of R.M. Smythe & Co., Inc. for \$170 plus buyer's fee. Known as the "White Ribbon," the medal originated "for Arctic Discoveries, 1818-1855" (this medal), and evolved into the Polar Medal, for service in both the Arctic and the Antarctic currently awarded.

## NFLD. \$2 TRADE TOKEN



The Exploits Regional Chamber of Commerce, Newfoundland issued a 1996 \$2 municipal trade token this fall, showing a pair of Atlantic salmon on the obverse and the Salmonid Interpretation Centre, which is situated on one side of the Exploits River just below the falls, on the reverse. This token is a continuation of a series begun in 1995 by the Grand Falls-Windsor Chamber of Commerce to show the seven stages of the life cycle of the Atlantic salmon.

The newly formed Exploits Regional Chamber of Commerce is based in Grand Falls-Windsor, but encompasses a large area from Red Indian Lake in the center of Newfoundland to the Bay of Exploits on the east coast. This region includes 12 other villages and towns with a total population of over 30,000. Pulp and paper make Grand Falls-Windsor the fourth largest urban center in Newfoundland. Small manufacturing, quarrying of dimension stone for buildings and tourism are also important to the economy of the Exploits Valley Region.

The principle function of the Salmonid Interpretation Centre is a ladder to aid the Atlantic salmon to get up the Exploits River and around Grand Falls. Visitors can view this, with the peak period being mid-July. This side of the token was designed by Robert Butt.

Lawrence Medallic Art of Mississauga, Ontario struck 5,000 tokens on 33mm nickel bonded steel planchets (\$2.75), 26 in pure silver, and an addition 100 each of gold plated (\$12), antiqued copper plated (\$9) and antiqued silver plated nickel bonded steel (\$11). Prices are in Canadian dollars and Canadian must add 7% GST. Orders are being handled by Jim Quinn, P.O. Box 291, Miramichi, N.B., Canada E1V 3M4.

Through an oversight, the 1995 municipal token issued by the Grand Falls-Windsor Chamber of Commerce failed to have a face value and expiry date. A proclamation signed by the Mayor stated that the piece was legal tender for \$2 from June 27 to September 1, 1995.

-Jerry Remick

## NUMISMATIC PIECES WILL MARK THE 500TH ANNIVERSARY OF CABOT'S DISCOVERY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

A number of diverse numismatic pieces are expected to be issued in 1997 to commemorate the 500th anniversary of John Cabot's discovery of Newfoundland. Cabot first landed in Newfoundland on June 24, 1497 in what is now the cod fishing town of Bonavista, situated on the south-east shore of Newfoundland.

Among the numismatic pieces that are expected to be issued in 1997 to commemorate this event are a Canadian commemorative coin, at least one municipal token, one or more municipal medals and issues of wooden nickels.

Next June, a replica of Cabot's ship, the Matthew, will follow Cabot's original route from Bristol, England to Bonavista, Newfoundland. Queen Elizabeth II will be present in Bonavista when the Matthew lands there on June 24, 1997. Then for 45 days, the ship is scheduled to sail around the island of Newfoundland visiting 15 ports.

Cabot's discovery of large shoals of cod and other fish off the coast of southern Newfoundland was the main attraction for Europeans. Fishing ships would arrive in the spring and return home to Europe in the fall with a cargo of smoked cod and other fish.

-Jerry Remick

## SAKHA-YAKUTIA



A friend just returned from Yakutsk in the Sakha-Yakutia region of Russia. He brought back with him the usual coins from circulation, but also the above medal struck in sterling silver.

The obverse commemorates the 50th anniversary of victory over fascism, and the dates 1945/1995. Very typical for Soviet/Russian medals.

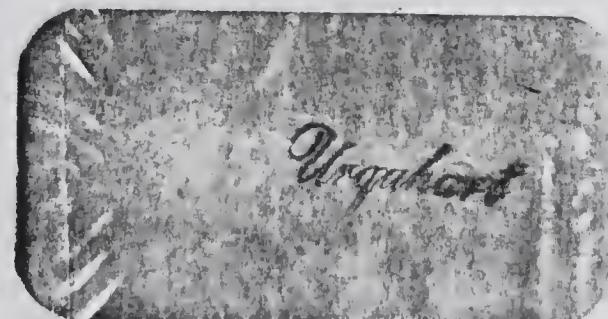
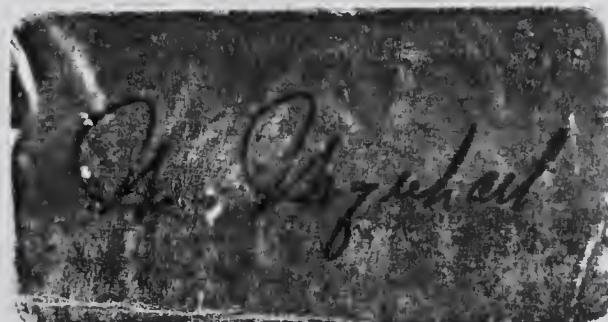
The reverse has what appears to be a horse in the center, and the legend Republic of Sakha (Yakutia).

A cute little piece. One can only wonder what else is available over there. If my friend ever goes back, he will have strict instructions on what to bring back!

# FOR THE RECORD



CANYON CITY, AK: Red Onion Restaurant, meal check. Listed, not illustrated.



CORDOVA: William Urquhart, good for 12 1/2¢ and 10¢ in trade, 60mm by 32mm. Black on blue and black on orange, respectively. William Urquhart went over the Dyea Trail in '98, then to Nome, Goodnews Bay, and then Cordova. In the 50's, he owned a card room, bar, barber shop, cafe and rented a few rooms (submitted by George L. Kritchen).



(KATALLA): Scandahovian, Gust Anderson Prop., 23. Aluminum, 24mm. Submitted by Harold Fossum, who writes, "This token has been in my collection for over 20 years. It was in my mother's Katalla 'stuff'. I was born on Kanak Island, Katalla, Alaska in 1929."

FOR THE BEST TO BE FOUND IN KATALLA

— GO TO —

THE SCANDINAVIAN  
SALOON

GUST ANDERSON, PROP

"Recently, I came across a copy of the 1907 Katalla Herald and saw the Scandinavian Saloon, "Gust. Anderson Prop." I believe the Scandinavian and Scandahovian are one and the same. The Scandinavian ad only appears in 1907 and 1908 newspapers. I have no idea what the 23 stands for."



BENNETT STATION, YT: One Meal, White Pass & Yukon. Black on peach, 56mm by 30mm.

## SILVER BARS & ROUNDS

### WANTED

COLLECTOR OF OLDER AND UNUSUAL SILVER ROUNDS AND BARS LOOKING FOR NEW ITEMS, INCLUDING DOG SLED RACING MEDALLIONS, SILVER GAMING TOKENS AND FRANKLIN MINT SETS, INCLUDING CHRISTMAS AND FATHERS DAY INGOTS. TWO STAMPS GETS 18 PAGES OF SALES AND TRADES.

AL FISHER  
P.O. BOX 20565  
OAKLAND, CA 94620  
TEL (510) 530-8089

# STATE MEDALLION 1997



The Alaska Mint has announced that the state medallion for 1997 will feature a musk ox. These should be available shortly after the first of the year. Watch the February issue.

The Alaska Mint also announce that the limited edition medals for 1996 are no longer available at wholesale. Also, the 1997 Iditarod is no longer available at wholesale, only at full retail. For your information, we are illustrating the 1997 Iditarod below.



## ARCTIC DEFENSE



The medal above is Soviet, for Defense of the Arctic Regions. The ribbon is blue, pale blue and white, the medal bright brass. One specimen available at \$58.

# WP&Y TICKET

RIVER DIVISION STATIONS		No. 8156	FORM 200	YEAR
FROM	TO			
F	T	WHITE HORSE		1909
F	T	TAHKEENA RIVER		1910
F	T	HEAD OF LABARGE		1911
F	T	FOOT OF LABARGE		1912
F	T	HOOTALINQUA		1913
E	T	CASSIAR BAR		
F	T	BIG SALMON		MAY
F	T	LITTLE SALMON		JUNE
F	T	CARMACK'S		JULY
F	T	TANTALUS		AUG
F	T	FIVE FINGERS		SEPT.
F	T	MACKAY'S		OCT.
F	T	HUTSHIKU		NOV.
F	T	MINTO		DAY
F	T	SELKIRK		1 17
F	T	SELWYN		2 18
F	T	BALLARAT		3 19
F	T	HALF WAY		4 20
F	T	KIRKMAN CREEK		5 21
F	T	THISTLE CREEK		6 22
F	T	WHITE RIVER		7 23
F	T	STEWART RIVER		8 24
F	T	EXCELSIOR		9 25
F	T	ROSEBUD		10 26
F	T	OGILVIE		11 27
F	T	REINDEER		12 28
F	T	INDIAN RIVER		13 29
F	T	AINSLIE		14 30
F	T	SWEDECREEK		15 31
F	T	DAWSON		16
F	T	16 MILE R'D HOUSE		CENTS
F	T	HALF WAY HOUSE		05 50
F	T	CASSIAR R'D HOUSE		10 60
F	T	FORTY MILE		20 70
F	T	CLIFF CREEK		25 75
F	T	EAGLE CITY		30 80
F	T			40 90
F	T			DOLL'S
F	T			1 10.00
F	T			2 20.00
F	T			3 30.00
F	T			4 40.00
F	T			5 50.00
F	T			6 60.00
F	T			7 70.00
F	T			8 80.00
F	T			9 90.00

If Half Fare punch here . . . . . X  
 If Special punch here . . . . . X  
 If Going North punch here . . . . . X  
 If Going South punch here . . . . . X

Steamer..... SELKIRK . . . . . Voy. No. 2

Above is a river steamer ticket for the Steamer Selkirk, showing points down river from White Horse to Eagle. Printed black on blue.

# ALASKAN TRANSPORTATION TOKENS & GAMBLING CHIPS

The following tokens and groups of tokens are offered to the highest bidder. There are no minimum or reserve bids (with one exception). Bids reduced to 10% over second highest bid, however no bids under \$10 will be reduced. Benice and Curto numbers are used to identify the transportation tokens. Please bid by lot number. Closing date is Feb. 25, 1997.

Lot	Description	Benice #	Curto #	Estimate
<b>TRANSPORTATION TOKENS</b>				
001	Anchorage City Transit System, 2 pcs.	T1a, b	50A, B	10.00
002	Anchorage Public Transit, 2 pcs.	T2a, b	50E, F	10.00
003	Anchorage Transit Company	T3a	50C	12.00
004	Cooper Landing, Russian River Ferry, 2 pcs.	T1a, c	190A, C	15.00
005	Fairbanks, College Bus, 12½¢ in transportation	T3a	300B	150.00+
006	Fairbanks, University Bus Lines, 15¢ in transportation	T7a	300D	20.00
007	Fairbanks, University Coach, 12½¢ in transportation	T8a	300C	35.00
008	Fairbanks, Alaska Coachways, Eielson, Ladd, University, 2 pcs.	T1a, b	300F, E	50.00
009	Juneau Transit System, Capital Transit, 2 pcs.	T4a, T1a	400B, C	5.00
010	Ketchikan, North Star Transit, 2 pcs.	T3a, b	450N, 0	15.00
011	Ketchikan, Northern Bus Co.	T4a	450I	10.00
012	Ketchikan, Northern Bus Co.	T4bII	450K	10.00
013	Ketchikan, Northern Bus Co.	T4c	450L	12.00
014	Ketchikan, White Cab Co., 2 pcs.	T5aI, aII	450A	10.00
015	Ketchikan, White Cab Co.	T6a	450D	30.00
016	Ketchikan, White Cab Co.	T6c	450E	30.00
017	Nome, Far North Transportation Co.	T1a	650A	75.00
018	Sitka, Baranof Bus Co.	T1a	800A	10.00
019	Wacker Transportation Co.	T3A	900B	10.00
020	Barrow Taxi, Haines Taxi, Flash Taxi (Kenai), Pioneer Cab (Seward) Wye Taxi (Soldotna), five pieces.		1000A-E	10.00

## **UNLISTED "COMMUTER'S TICKET"**

(see August, 1996 issue of Alaskan Token Collector & Polar Numismatist, page 59)

021	O'Hara Bus Lines. Ticket booklet with one page of five tickets.	minimum bid	100.00
022	As above, single ticket (multiple specimens, bids reduced to lowest successful bid).	minimum bid	25.00

## **GAMBLING CHIPS (not on chip)**

023	(Anchorage), Cheechako Tavern, gray clay with black on white celluloid insert	25.00
024	As above, but clay is corroded	10.00
025	(Cordova), The Club, red border, white center, black printing, celluloid or an early plastic	25.00
026	(Cordova), Igloo 19 (Pioneers of Alaska), set of 3, gold on blue, orange and yellow.	30.00
027	(Fairbanks?), Igloo, gold on pink	15.00
028	(Fairbanks), -horseshoe- Cigar Store, black on light green	30.00
029	(Juneau), (Elks Club) 420, gold on blue	30.00
030	Juneau Country Club, gold on red	30.00
031	Kodiak, B.P.O.E. 1772, set of two, gold on light green and red.	50.00
032	(Seward) Palace Bar, 25¢, gold on white with two blue inserts.	50.00
033	(Seward) Palace Bar, \$1, gold on blue with two white inserts.	50.00
034	Blank discs, red, white and blue, attributed to Johnson Hotel, McCarthy. While we cannot vouch for this attribution, this source has proven reliable. Bid accordingly.	15.00

**SEND BIDS TO: ALASKA RARE COINS, 551-B SECOND AVE.,  
FAIRBANKS, AK 99701 or phone 907-452-6461**

250th ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
DISCOVERY OF ALASKA

by Lee Poleske

I recently acquired a set of medals from the Australian Numismatic Company of Ballarat, Australia in a mail bid sale. They were put out by a Russian concern called Meznumizmatika (no city or address given) and since they commemorate the 250th anniversary of the discovery of Alaska, I assume they were issued in or around 1991. No date of manufacture appears on the medals or the case they came in.

According to the "certificate of authenticity" that came with the medals, they are made of copper-nickel, are 39mm in size and are in proof condition. Size and composition are correct, but they are clearly not in proof condition. Uncirculated would be the best term. The medals, each enclosed in a pliofilm envelope, are housed in a sturdy black plastic case.

The reverse is the same on all medals; "Meznumizmatika" in Cyrillic letters around the top border, and repeated around the bottom border in Roman letters. In the center are two company logos.

The obverse of the medals commemorate four events. All carry the legend "250th Anniversary of Discovery of Russian America."



This medal shows the ship *St. Gabriel*, and has the date "1732" and "Boat St. Gabriel" at the bottom.

The medal commemorates the voyage of the *St. Gabriel*, under the command of Mikhail Gvozdev and Ivan Fedorov. The ship sailed from Kamchatka in August 1732, crossed the Bering Strait and explored Big Diomede Island. Continuing eastward the *St. Gabriel* anchored three miles off Cape Prince of Wales, but no landing was attempted. The ship went south passing King Island on its way back to Siberia, which it reached in late September.

This was one of several short expeditions made by the Russians in their exploration of the area to the east of Siberia. Its importance is that the men on the *St. Gabriel* were probably the first Europeans to see northwest America, but it is questionable if they realized the land that they saw was part of America.

This medal shows the ship *St. Peter*, the date 1741, a small bust of Vitus Bering and "The packet boat St. Peter" at the bottom. A packet boat had two masts with square sails and a flush deck; it was 80 feet in length, 20 feet in width and had 14 guns.

This medal commemorates the second expedition of Vitus Bering, which left



(continued on page 10)

# EDITORIAL

Our Thanks to Lee Poleske for submitting the article on the Russian medals commemorating the 250th Anniversary of the discovery of Alaska. We did a short piece on these medals in January 1993, but Lee has expanded upon that with more details.

The mail bid sale that we ran in the last issue had a few minor typos, so we are running it again this month. There was one incorrect catalogue number, and the transportation catalogue is Atwood-Coffee, not Curto. The closing date is still February 25, so get those bids in.

Our March auction is shaping up with some "awesome" tokens. As mentioned before, this auction will include four gold nugget tokens and native copper tokens. We selected a few odd pieces of brass and aluminum to go with these that will knock your socks off!

Want lists are coming in, and we have responded to these. What we find amazing is the number of people that are pursuing the cardboard tokens! We have always felt they were undervalued because of their lack of durability.

Concerning the "want list" service. We did not expect to have all ten items that customers requested. Some are "hitting" on only one or two items. Watch the March issue closely. Perhaps we will invite you to submit an additional list of ten items!

Winter hit in January with some 50 below zero temperatures. Our condolences to those in the midwest who, quite frankly, are getting our weather. Please keep it!

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# ODD COUNTERSTAMP



Above is an interesting piece with a deer, reindeer, caribou or elk counterstamp. Below the deer is W H-C. The host coin is a French 1 Sol, 1790-M.

This piece was in a vinyl flip identified as "Kodiak Island, Aleutian Range, William Hardclift Trading Depot, Good for one sou, Circa 1795." Hand written on the back is "J.L. Bettov used in Kodiak in 1860."

I am a skeptic from way back. Another possibility would be Scandinavia. Or maybe French Canada.

Neat piece, though. Does anyone have any thoughts on this???? If anyone has Brunk's book, please see if it is listed in there.

## BUYING - WANTED FOR RESEARCH & RECORDING

CANADIAN & U.S.A. CHAUFFEURS BADGES AND LICENCES, DR. LICENCES, BADGES, PAPER DRIVERS LICENCES, PERMITS, MOTOR VEHICLE & INSPECTION BADGES AND PATCHES, DRIVERS MANUALS & RELATED ITEMS, TAXI & BUS DRIVERS BADGES, LIMOUSINE AND TRANSIT. D.A.V. - WAR AMPS & T.B. VETS KEY TAGS. B.C. ELECTRIC AND OTHER TRANSPORTATION, FIRE ARMS, WARDENS, FORESTRY.

## ALSO WANTED - YUKON - ALASKA - N.W.T.

ALSO WANTED TO BUY ALL LICENCES AND BADGES, PATCHES, TAGS, PLATES - METAL, PAPER, FIBER. URGENT: WE NEED YUKON CHAUFFEURS BADGES. TOP PRICE PAID.

CANADIAN PARKS BADGES, PASSES, WINDSHIELD STICKERS, PLATES, WILDLIFE, GAME DEPT., AND HUNTING TAGS, FISHING LICENCES & BADGES, FIREARMS, DOG TAGS & OTHER ANIMAL TAGS, BADGES, LICENCES, PATCHES, VEHICLE & BICYCLE LIC., MOTOR CYCLE SINGLE & DOUBLE DRAYS, MESSENGER, COURIER, DELIVERY, SAMPLES, ETC. CANVASSERS, PEDDLERS, VENDORS, NEWS BOY, NEWS VENDORS & NEWS AGENT, WAITRESS, BELL HOPS, TOLL COLLECTORS, PARKING METER, BRIDGE PASSES & BADGES, HWY PATROL, B.C. TEL, POLICE BADGES & PATCHES, BRINKS AND LOOMIS, RAILWAY, FERRIES, SHIPS, ETC.

BUYING OR WILL TRADE OUR DUPLICATES, ALONG WITH POLICE BADGES & PATCHES, CANADIAN, U.S. & WORLD COINS, STAMPS, PAPER MONEY, TOKENS, MEDALS & MEDALLIONS, MILITARY BADGES AND PINS, WATCHES, CANADIAN LICENCE PLATES, DOG TAGS, POST CARDS, COMIC BOOKS, 1ST DAY COVERS, POSTAL STATIONARY & MORE PLEASE QUOTE YOUR ASKING PRICE OR SHIP FOR OUR OFFERS.

"SEND FOR YOUR "FREE" MAIL BID CATALOGUE  
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## RUSSIAN MEDALS, cont.

Kamchatka in June 1741. There were two ships in the expedition but they were separated in a storm. Bering's ship *St. Peter* sighted land on July 17. The ship's log notes "sighted snow covered mountains among them a high volcano." Since it was St. Elias day, they named the volcano Mount St. Elias. A few days later a landing was made on Kayak Island. In the landing party was naturalist Georg Steller, who saw a jay (now called the Steller Jay), which he knew was native to America.

On the way back to Russia, scurvy broke out. It was decided to winter on one of the Commander Islands (now called Bering Island). The *St. Peter* was blown ashore and wrecked. Bering and several of the crew died during the winter. In the spring the survivors built a new ship out of the wreckage of the *St. Peter* and reached Kamchatka in November 1742.



This medal shows the ship *St. Paul*, the date 1741, a small bust of Aleksei Chirikov and "The packet boat St. Paul" at the bottom.

This medal commemorates the 1741 Bering expedition. Aleksei Chirikov was in command of the second ship of the expedition, the *St. Paul*. After the separation of the ships, Chirikov sailed east and sighted the coast of Alaska on July 15, 1741, most likely Lisianski Inlet on Chichagoff Island. Chirikov sent a boat ashore, but it did not return. He sent a second, but it also did not return. A couple of days later two canoes came out of the bay, but turned away when invited to come aboard. Chirikov decided to return to Russia, which he reached in October 1741.

The last medal shows the meeting of Captain Cook and Gerasim A. Izmailov on the deck of a ship, with a ship in the distance, the year 1778, and "The Meeting of G. Izmailov and Cook" at the bottom.



This medal commemorates an incident that happened during Captain Cook's visit to Alaska in 1778. While anchored at Unalaska, Cook was visited by the Russian navigator and fur trader, Gerasim A. Izmailov. The medal gives the impression that Izmailov arrived at Unalaska in a large ship, but Cook says in his log: "He came in a canoe carrying three people, attended by 20 or 30 other canoes each conducted by one man."

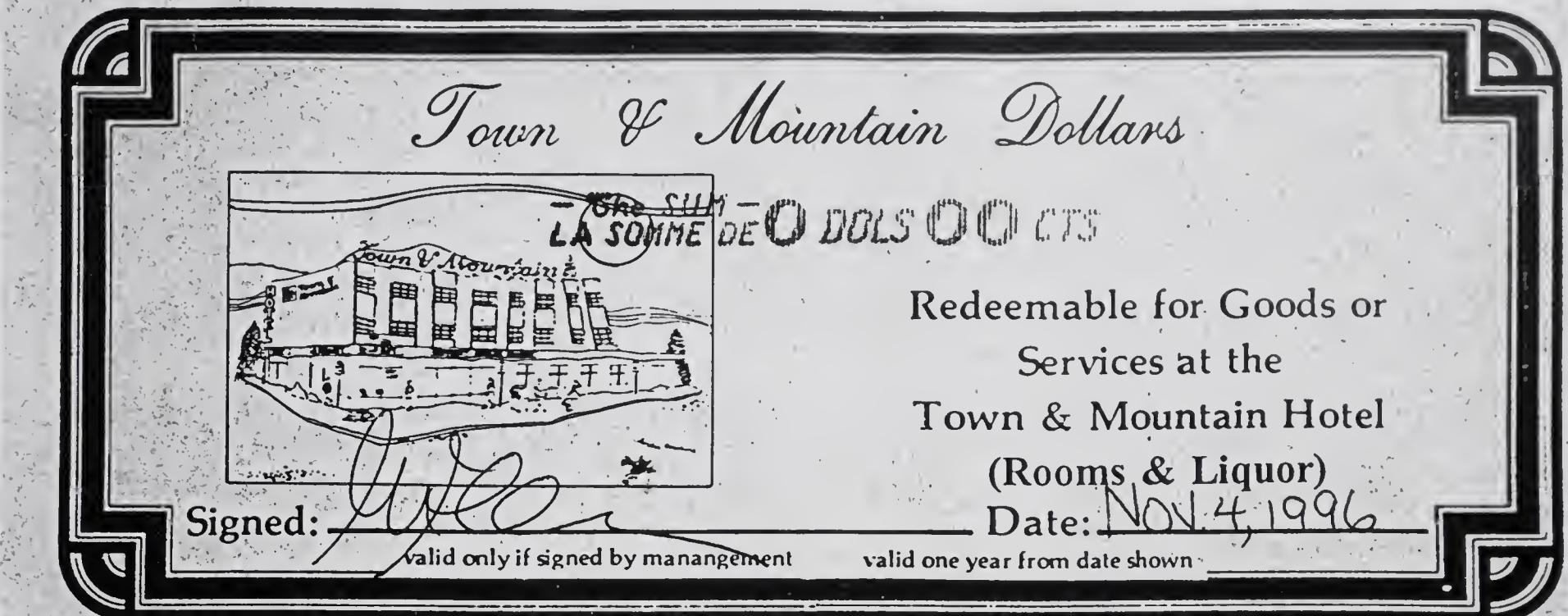
Cook also says, "I found he was very well acquainted with the geography of these parts." Although none of the Russians could speak English and none of the Englishmen could speak Russian, Cook gained a great deal of information about the area by having Izmailov go over his charts, correcting errors and giving place names. Concerning the one thing Cook was most interested in, the existence of a Northwest Passage, Izmailov could not provide any help. The Russians had not explored the northern part of Alaska.

I would like to thank Dorothy Knighten of Seward for translating the Russian on the medals and the certificate that came with them.

(Ed. Note: For those desiring a set of these medals, try Lauren Benson, Inc., 2535 Tech Dr. Suite 107, Bettendorf, Iowa 52722-3299. I believe I saw these on a recent price list.)

-----  
**EAST OF THE SUN, the Epic Conquest and Tragic History of Siberia** by Benson Bobrick details the eastward expansion of Russia. Hardbound, 542 pages. Touches on Russian America, but shows what was needed to reach that point. Very little after 1917. Cover price is \$28. We have three copies available for \$17 postpaid.

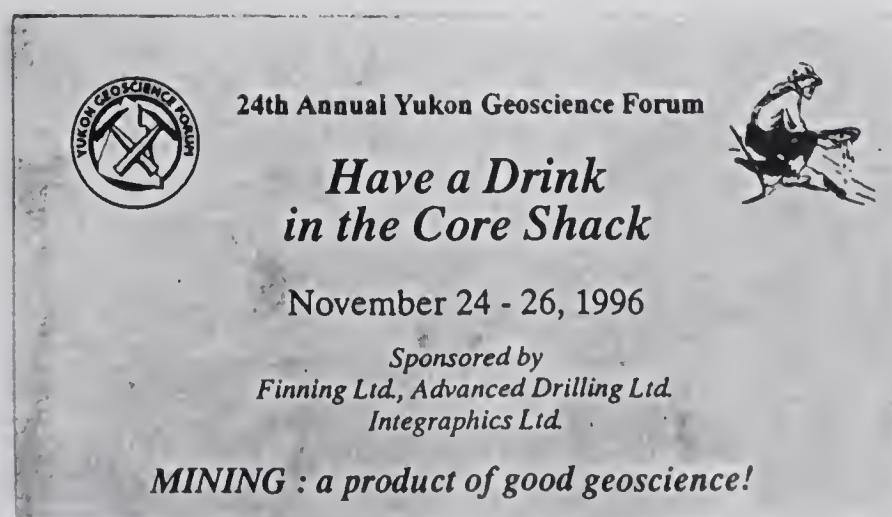
# JIM ROBB'S YUKON PAPER POTPOURRI



**WHITEHORSE:** Town & Mountain (Hotel). Black on tan paper with mechanical check imprint. An interesting way to issue scrip or a gift certificate. 190mm by 80mm.



**WHITEHORSE:** Capital Hotel Bar Buck. Black design, "One", "1", and Capital Hotel Bar Buck in red, all on gray paper. 150mm by 66mm.



**WHITEHORSE:** 24th Annual Yukon Geoscience Forum, Have a Drink in the Core Shack. Sponsored by Finning Ltd., Advanced Drilling Ltd., Intergraphics Ltd. Black on lime green, 88mm by 50mm.

# PAPER POTPOURRI



Excludes Gasoline, Alcohol, Uniform & Accessory Issue Items and Catalog purchases. Redeemable in AAFES retail store only through 27 JAN 97

## ALASKA NORTHERN EXCHANGE

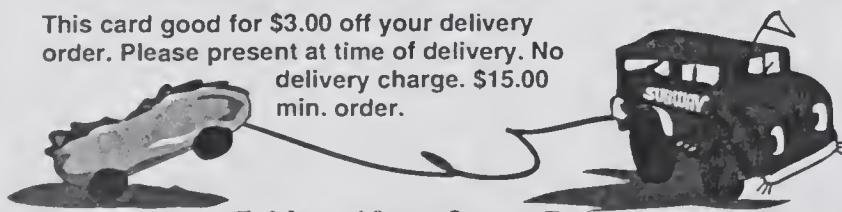
(FT. WAINWRIGHT): AAFES Bonus Buck, Alaska Northern Exchange. Black on green, back blank except for rubber stamp. 156mm by 66mm.



FAIRBANKS: Midnight Sun Lions Club, \$50, \$100 and \$500 (shown). All black printing, identical except for value and paper color. \$50 is purple, \$100 red and \$500 yellow. These have been buried in our files since Sept. of 1995. Sorry it took so long to get them in (submitted by Les Hill).

## SUBWAY Delivers!

This card good for \$3.00 off your delivery order. Please present at time of delivery. No delivery charge. \$15.00 min. order.



Phone 277-7827

**SUBWAY**

ANCHORAGE: Subway Cafe, \$3.00 off delivery order. Multi-colored, 88mm by 51mm (submitted by Kurtis Hawk).

# 1996 GANDER TRADE \$1



A Douglas B-18A bomber of World War II vintage is depicted on Gander's 1996 "Aviation Dollar." The B-18A is also known as the Douglas Digby. This is the 15th in an annual issue depicting aircraft that refueled at Gander's airport before heading overseas.

The Douglas B-18A bomber was manufactured in 1937 by the Douglas Aircraft Company in Santa Monica, CA. Based on the DC-2 transport, the B-18As fat body bulged under the wing to accommodate an internal bomb bay. The nose was modified to give the bombardier more comfort and visibility. The B-18As maximum speed was 215 mph at 10,000 feet with a flight range of 1150 miles while carrying 2496 pounds of bombs.

The plane's popularity at the beginning of the war was due to its low cost and reliable airline flying. The U.S. Army purchased 217 planes between 1937 and 1940. In March 1940, Canada bought 20 for the Royal Canadian Air Force. The planes served with a squadron based in Gander.

The B-18As role during World War II was that of coastal defense. After 1940, its popularity faded rapidly and was soon replaced by the B-17.

The reverse features the logo of the Gander and Area Chamber of Commerce showing a Canada Goose in flight.

The token was designed by Mr. Greg Seaward of Gander. Lawrence Medallic Art of Mississauga, Ontario struck 12,000 tokens on 33mm nickel bonded steel blanks. Of this total, 500 were gold plated. These are priced at \$1.60 and \$7.02, respectively. They are available from the Gander and Area Chamber of Commerce, 109 Trans Canada Highway, Gander, Newfoundland, Canada A1V 1P6.

Some back issues are available from the Chamber of Commerce. A set of nine trade dollars, 1985 and 1989 to 1996 is priced at \$43.25 postpaid. A set of five tokens from 1992 to 1996 is \$17.91. Some singles are also available. A brochure depicting all 15 of Gander's trade dollars is available at no charge upon request to the Chamber of Commerce.

-Jerry Remick

(Ed. Note: We found this in our file, where it has languished since August. Sorry, Jerry!)

## UNLISTED TOKENS!



FAIRBANKS: Two unlisted tokens from the Pioneer Hotel have come to our attention. Both are aluminum, 30mm. Both will be in our March auction!



*Keep This 1962  
Alaska Frontier Dollar  
in your possession from  
April 21 - October 21, 1962!*

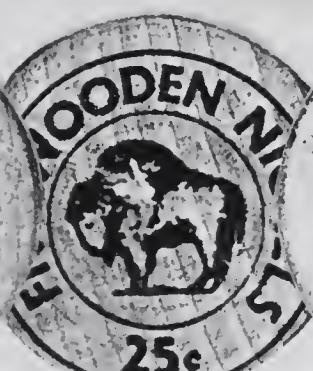
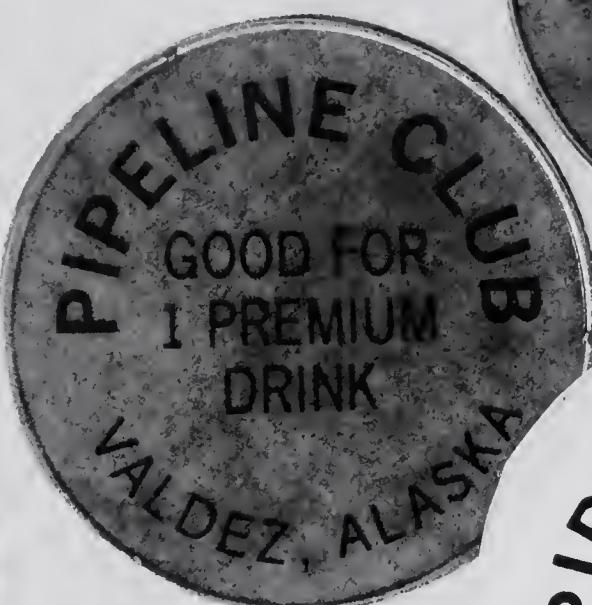
When you meet the Alaskan with the free tickets, he is required to see your 1962 Alaska frontier dollar (the one redeemable for Alaska gold nugget) before you can qualify for a free trip from America's Space Age World's Fair to Alaska.

— VIA ALASKA AIRLINES —



Above is an interesting item that may have given the North Star Enterprise 1962 good for a dollar or gold nugget some real value! The card to which it is attached indicates that Alaska Airlines was giving away free tickets. Does anyone remember these actually being used in this manner??

# FOR THE RECORD



FAIRBANKS: Fairbanks Video, 25¢, two different types. Black on wood.



FAIRBANKS: VFW 3629, Golden Heart Post wooden nickel. VFW side red, wooden nickel side blue.

VALDEZ: Pipeline Club, various drink tokens, all plastic, black printing and 60mm with a raised rim. Green - 1 Beer; blue - 1 Premium Drink; Yellow - 1 Call Drink; Red - 1 Well Drink (would not photocopy, identical to Call Drink, but Well for Call).



ALASKA: Two different 1/20 oz. silver medals: Ying/Yang symbol and Dragon (submitted by Kurtis Hawk).



ALASKA: The Dream Lives On, Alaska the Last Frontier. One ounce silver (submitted by Kurtis Hawk).

# **ALASKAN TRANSPORTATION TOKENS & GAMBLING CHIPS**

The following tokens and groups of tokens are offered to the highest bidder. There are no minimum or reserve bids (with one exception). Bids reduced to 10% over second highest bid, however no bids under \$10 will be reduced. Benice and Atwood-Coffee numbers are used to identify the transportation tokens. Please bid by lot number. **Closing date is Feb. 25, 1997.**

Lot	Description	Benice #	At-Cof #	Estimate
<b>TRANSPORTATION TOKENS</b>				
001	Anchorage City Transit System, 2 pcs.	T1a, b	50A, B	10.00
002	Anchorage Public Transit, 2 pcs.	T2a, b	50E, F	10.00
003	Anchorage Transit Company	T3a	50C	12.00
004	Cooper Landing, Russian River Ferry, 2 pcs.	T1a, c	190A, C	15.00
005	Fairbanks, College Bus, 12½¢ in transportation	T3a	300A	150.00+
006	Fairbanks, University Bus Lines, 15¢ in transportation	T7a	300D	20.00
007	Fairbanks, University Coach, 12½¢ in transportation	T8a	300C	35.00
008	Fairbanks, Alaska Coachways, Eielson, Ladd, University, 2 pcs.	T1a, b	300F, E	50.00
009	Juneau Transit System, Capital Transit, 2 pcs.	T4a, T1a	400B, C	5.00
010	Ketchikan, North Star Transit, 2 pcs.	T3a, b	450N, 0	15.00
011	Ketchikan, Northern Bus Co.	T4a	450I	10.00
012	Ketchikan, Northern Bus Co.	T4bII	450K	10.00
013	Ketchikan, Northern Bus Co.	T4c	450L	12.00
014	Ketchikan, White Cab Co., 2 pcs.	T5aI, aII	450A	10.00
015	Ketchikan, White Cab Co.	T6a	450D	30.00
016	Ketchikan, White Cab Co.	T6c	450E	30.00
017	Nome, Far North Transportation Co.	T1a	650A	75.00
018	Sitka, Baranof Bus Co.	T1a	800A	10.00
019	Wacker Transportation Co.	T3A	900B	10.00
020	Barrow Taxi, Haines Taxi, Flash Taxi (Kenai), Pioneer Cab (Seward) Wye Taxi (Soldotna), five pieces.		1000A-E	10.00

## **UNLISTED "COMMUTER'S TICKET"**

(see August, 1996 issue of Alaskan Token Collector & Polar Numismatist, page 59)

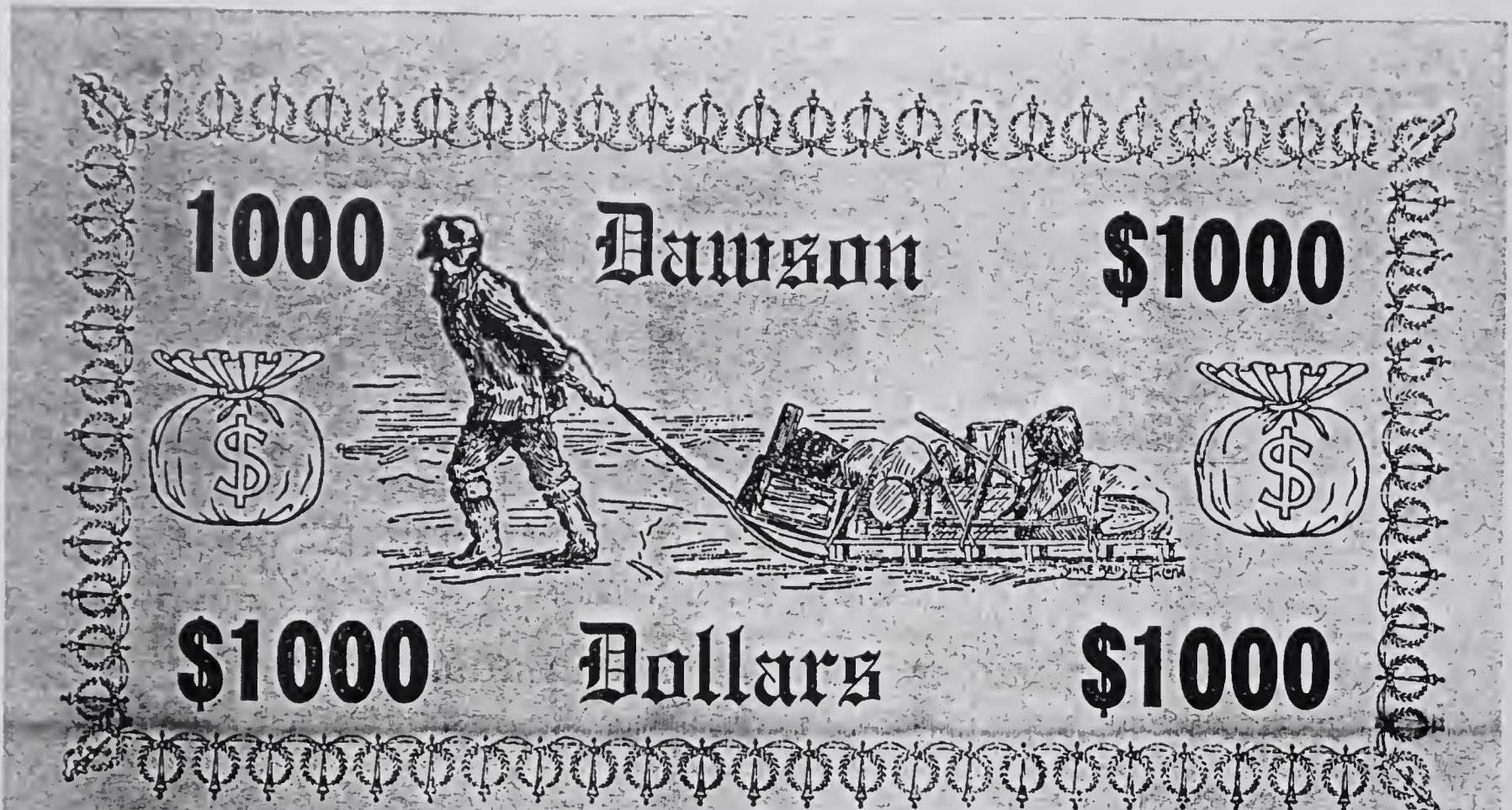
021 (Fairbanks) O'Harra Bus Lines. Ticket booklet with one page of five tickets.	minimum bid	100.00
022 As above, single ticket (multiple specimens, bids reduced to lowest successful bid).	minimum bid	25.00

## **GAMBLING CHIPS (not on chip)**

023 (Anchorage), Cheechako Tavern, gray clay with black on white celluloid insert	25.00
024 As above, but clay is corroded	10.00
025 (Cordova), The Club, red border, white center, black printing, celluloid or an early plastic	25.00
026 (Cordova), Igloo 19 (Pioneers of Alaska), set of 3, gold on blue, orange and yellow.	30.00
027 (Fairbanks?), Igloo, gold on pink	15.00
028 (Fairbanks), -horseshoe- Cigar Store, black on light green	30.00
029 (Juneau), (Elks Club) 420, gold on blue	30.00
030 Juneau Country Club, gold on red	30.00
031 Kodiak, B.P.O.E. 1772, set of two, gold on light green and red.	50.00
032 (Seward) Palace Bar, 25¢, gold on white with two blue inserts.	50.00
033 (Seward) Palace Bar, \$1, gold on blue with two white inserts.	50.00
034 Blank discs, red, white and blue, attributed to Johnson Hotel, McCarthy. While we cannot vouch for this attribution, this source has proven reliable. Bid accordingly.	15.00

**SEND BIDS TO: ALASKA RARE COINS, 551-B SECOND AVE.,  
FAIRBANKS, AK 99701 or phone 907-452-6461**

# DAWSON DOLLARS



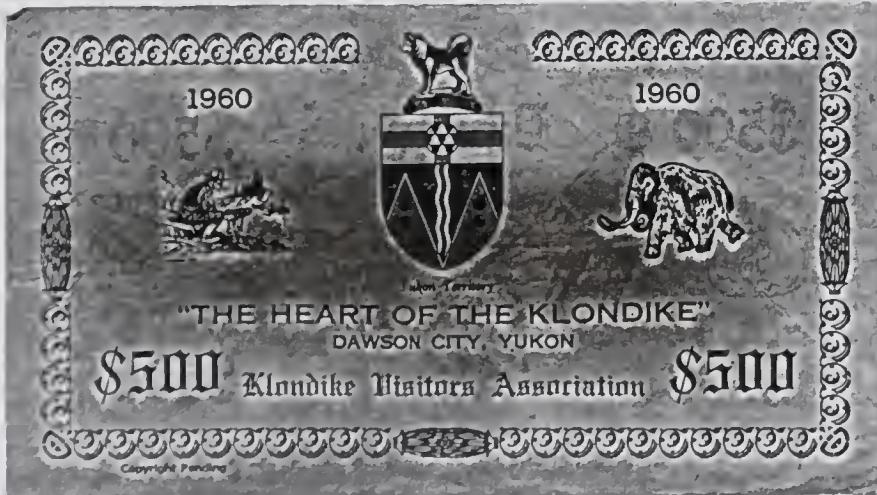
A small quantity of "Dawson Dollars", used in connection with the tourist trade has recently become available to collectors. Illustrated at full size above is the common back. Below are the fronts of the notes, at half size. Note that one is undated, two are dated 1960, while the fourth is dated 1963. All are printed in black on colored paper, approximately 175mm by 96mm.



Undated, pink, Klondike Tourist Bureau - \$10



1960, orange, Klondike Visitors Assn. - \$10



1960, green, Klondike Visitors Assn. - \$10



1963, yellow, Klondike Vistors Assn. - \$10

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VOLUME XIX, NUMBER 3.

MARCH, 1997.

## AUCTION OFFERS CLASSIC RARITIES!!

The auction that accompanies this issue contains some of the classic Alaskan token rarities. While the gold nugget and native copper tokens are, as one prominent collector puts it, "sexy," they are not as rare as some of the others that are offered, with tongue in cheek, as "a few pieces of aluminum and brass." While not equally rare, each token has something to recommend itself to the collector-historian.



B&K from Chena was for quite some time, the only token from this ghost town just 10 road miles from Fairbanks. Much of the townsite is probably in the middle of the Tanana River. The two Collins and Strait, 1898 tokens from Circle are among the few tokens that have a date. The style of the die work is popular with collectors. Saloon tokens are always popular, so the Eagle Saloon from Circle is a favorite piece, if only because it is more available than many other of Alaska's saloon tokens.

Bi-metal tokens are very collectible. There are many from states other than Alaska, but the number of bimetal tokens in Alaska is not large. The Cordova Northern Drug token and the Fairbanks Northern Hotel Pool Room offer two different styles of this type of token.



All Douglas tokens seem to be very scarce, and the Kane token offered, while "only" an R-7, has an early die style, and will be eagerly sought by advanced collectors.



Two previously unknown tokens from the Pioneer Hotel in Fairbanks are offered (illustrated in last month's newsletter). One carries the interesting good for statement of "drinks or cigars." Other Fairbanks tokens offered are so scarce, we just don't remember them ever being offered at sale before. And the Klawock token from the North Pacific Trading and Packing Co., with all legend incuse will be one of the stars when the prices realized are announced.

But the token that will bring a smile to the buyer's face will have to be the A.F. Davis token from Hope (that's Alaska, not Arkansas). Davis's token "good for one Smile" is one of the neater good fors in all of the Alaskan token series.



Let us not forget the stars of the auction though: the four gold nugget tokens, the native copper pictorials (including a uniface pictorial medal from Nome, and the R.J. Negus token with the portrait of the Eskimo!

# EDITORIAL

It is with great pleasure that we bring you this month's newsletter. The auction noted on the front page offers one of the nicest selections of Alaskan tokens offered recently. To the best of our knowledge, it is the first time several have been offered at public sale. We hope that you will take the opportunity to participate in this sale. Once placed into new collections, many of these tokens will not be available again for a long time!

Ron Benice has written to suggest we start planning to get together in Portland at the ANA convention in 1998! I told him that that was 18 months away, but he thinks we should start thinking about it. I think I can convince my business partner to let me go play, so please keep your calendar open, and let's plan on meeting in Portland.

Our mail bid auction of transportation tokens and gambling chips closes shortly, but after this goes in the mail. We will report on the prices realized in the next issue, as well as the prices realized from the auction that is included in this newsletter.

In the April issue of our newsletter, and in TACT, we hope to have ready a mail bid auction for Alaskan military tokens. This will feature a large assortment of common, but surprisingly hard to find modern tokens, as well as a few older ones. Future mail bid sales will include common as well as scarce tokens, as well as medals.

Best of luck to all in the auction. Bid early, bid often, and bid a lot of money!!!!

**Alaskan Token Collector & Polar Numismatist**, published 10 times per year, is a publication of Alaska Rare Coin s. All articles remain the property of the authors and may not be reprinted without their consent.

Editor - Dick Hanscom

Associate Editor - Jerry Cleworth

Anchorage Correspondent - Kurtis Hawk

Canadian Correspondent - Jerry Remick

Yukon Correspondent - Jim Robb

Scandinavian Correspondent - Jorgen Somod

## Subscription Rates:

US & Canada	\$10 per year
Canada	\$12 per year
Elsewhere	\$25 per year.

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1 page - \$15 1/2 page - \$8 1/4 page - \$5  
1/5 page, business card size - \$15 for 5 issues.

Classified ads 20 cents per line.

Commercial advertisers: Write for rates.

# NORTHEAST PASSAGE



The medal above appears in Stephen P. Albert's Mail Bid Sale #52 closing March 3rd, lot number 640. The obverse features polar explorer Adolf Erik Nordenskjold. Nordenskjold, a Swede, left Tromso, Norway in July of 1878 in the ship Vega and arrived at Yokohama, Japan 14 months later.

The medal is white metal, 27mm with a minimum bid of \$15. Since it is close to the closing date, if you are interested in this piece, give Steve a call at 310-836-2482.

## SPECULATION

If you want to speculate in coins, try the new Botanic Gardens set with the matte-proof Jefferson Nickel. Only 25,000 are going to be made.

## BUYING - WANTED FOR RESEARCH & RECORDING

CANADIAN & U.S.A. CHAUFFEURS BADGES AND LICENCES, DR. LICENCES, BADGES, PAPER DRIVERS LICENCES, PERMITS, MOTOR VEHICLE & INSPECTION BADGES AND PATCHES, DRIVERS MANUALS & RELATED ITEMS, TAXI & BUS DRIVERS BADGES, LIMOUSINE AND TRANSIT. D.A.V. - WAR AMPS & T.B. VETS KEY TAGS. B.C. ELECTRIC AND OTHER TRANSPORTATION, FIRE ARMS, WARDENS, FORESTRY.

## ALSO WANTED - YUKON -ALASKA-N.W.T.

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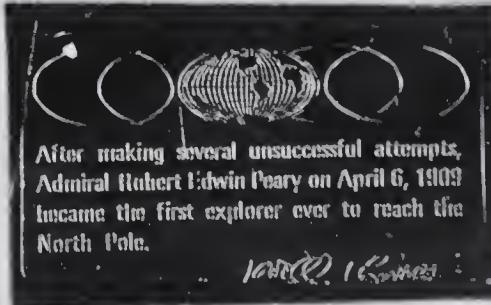
**"SEND FOR YOUR "FREE" MAIL BID CATALOGUE  
ON THE ABOVE AND MORE"**

**JOHN HNATIUK  
P.O. BOX 4944  
VANCOUVER, B.C.  
CANADA V6B 4A6  
PHONE (604) 596-6303  
FAX (604) 596-6343**

(exp #10/96)



FAIRBANKS: Gordon's Interest Bearing Certificate, black printing. A note in my unreadable handwriting says that Frank Gordon was from Scotland, had several stores, went bankrupt in the 1930s, came back and opened a women's clothing store, and was a state senator. This has been buried in our files for 8 years! (submitted by Nick Nickell).



An interesting gold on sterling ingot. The obverse has "Admiral Peary reaches the North Pole..." The reverse carries the legend "After making several unsuccessful attempts, Admiral Robert Edwin Peary on April 6, 1909 became the first explorer ever to reach the North Pole." Or did he. A recent news article declared that both Peary and Cooke were liars. This article stated that neither reached the pole, and both knew it!

# ALASKA MINT REPORT - 1996 MINTAGES, 1997 MUSK-OX, YUKON QUEST



Mintages for the 1996 State medals are as follows:

Metal content	Mintage	Our Price
1/20 oz. silver	1,730	n/a
1/10 oz. silver	2,355	8.00
1/4 oz. silver	1,950	10.00
1/2 oz. silver	1,450	12.00
1 oz. silver Proof	9,790	30.00
1 oz. silver P/L	2,975*	45.00
1 oz. silver matte	included above	20.00
1/20 oz. gold	220	n/a
1/10 oz. gold	497	100.00
1/2 oz. gold	116	n/a
1 oz. gold	155	n/a

\* In 1996, the Alaska Mint produced a Proof-like medal for approximately 3 months. After that time, they produced a medal with a matte, or fully frosted finish. While still being sold as proof-like, it obviously is not, and we offer both types.



The 1997 one ounce silver medals have been released. These are available in Proof and matte finish. The Alaska Mint has decided to continue with the matte finish, however, they still persist in calling it Proof-like. We offer the 1997 Proof at \$27 and the 1997 matte at \$15.



The 1997 Yukon Quest medals are now available.

Suggested retail is \$35, and we are offering these at \$30. We also have all previous issues priced as follows:

1993	50.00	1994	50.00
1995	35.00	1996	35.00



The 1997 Iditarod medals are no longer available from the Alaska Mint at wholesale. We do not have any currently, and have a waiting list for these, and the 1996. The Alaska Mint is currently selling to all at \$90. These were "sold out" at the issue price of \$35 shortly after the first of the year.

If you wish to order any of the medals offered on this page, please include \$3 per order for postage and insurance.

## RUSSIAN ICEBREAKER



No, this does not refer to an exotic drink made with vodka! To celebrate the 300th anniversary of the Russian navy (we think this is the reason), the icebreaker "Ermak" is featured on a 3 Rouble coin dated 1996. There is also a companion piece with an aircraft carrier. Both coins are in proof condition, and offered by Lauren Benson, Inc. of Bettendorf, Iowa at \$35 each.

## YUKON MILITARIA

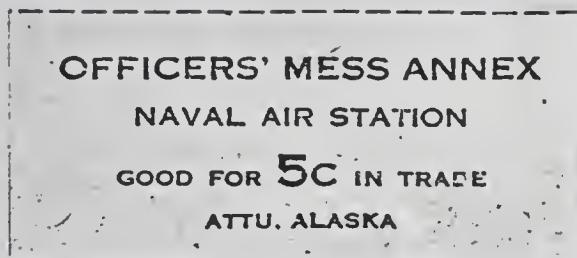


"Yukon Territory/Canada, copper shoulder title, Charleton 262-91. Offered in a recent Jeffery Hoare Auction.

# FOR THE RECORD



ANCHORAGE, AK: M.W. Grand Lodge (Masons), 6th Annual Communication, 1987. Silver finish, 40mm.



ATTU, AK: Officers' Mess Annex, Naval Air Station, 5¢ in trade. Turquoise on buff. Circa WWII or a little later. Attu was one of two Alaskan islands occupied by the Japanese (submitted by Ron Benice).



ELMENDORF A.F.B., AK: Team Alaska, 632nd Air Mobility Support Squadron (formerly 616 ALSS). Bronze, 40mm (submitted by Bryan E. Cleary).



FAIRBANKS, AK: M.W. Grand Lodge (Masons), 9th Annual Communication, 1990. Silver finish, 40mm.



(FORT RICHARDSON, AK?): Twenty-third Infantry,

Fourth Battalion, Go the Extra Mile. Bronze, 39mm (submitted by Kurtis Hawk).



HAINES, AK: Teddy Bear Coffee Shop, 25¢ in trade. Aluminum, 27mm (submitted by Karl Ward).



NORTH POLE, AK: North Pole Speedway, child's admission when accompanied by adult. Black on wood.



TOK, AK: Swede's Chevron, good for 1 cup of coffee. Presumably blk on wood (submitted by Stephen Alpert).

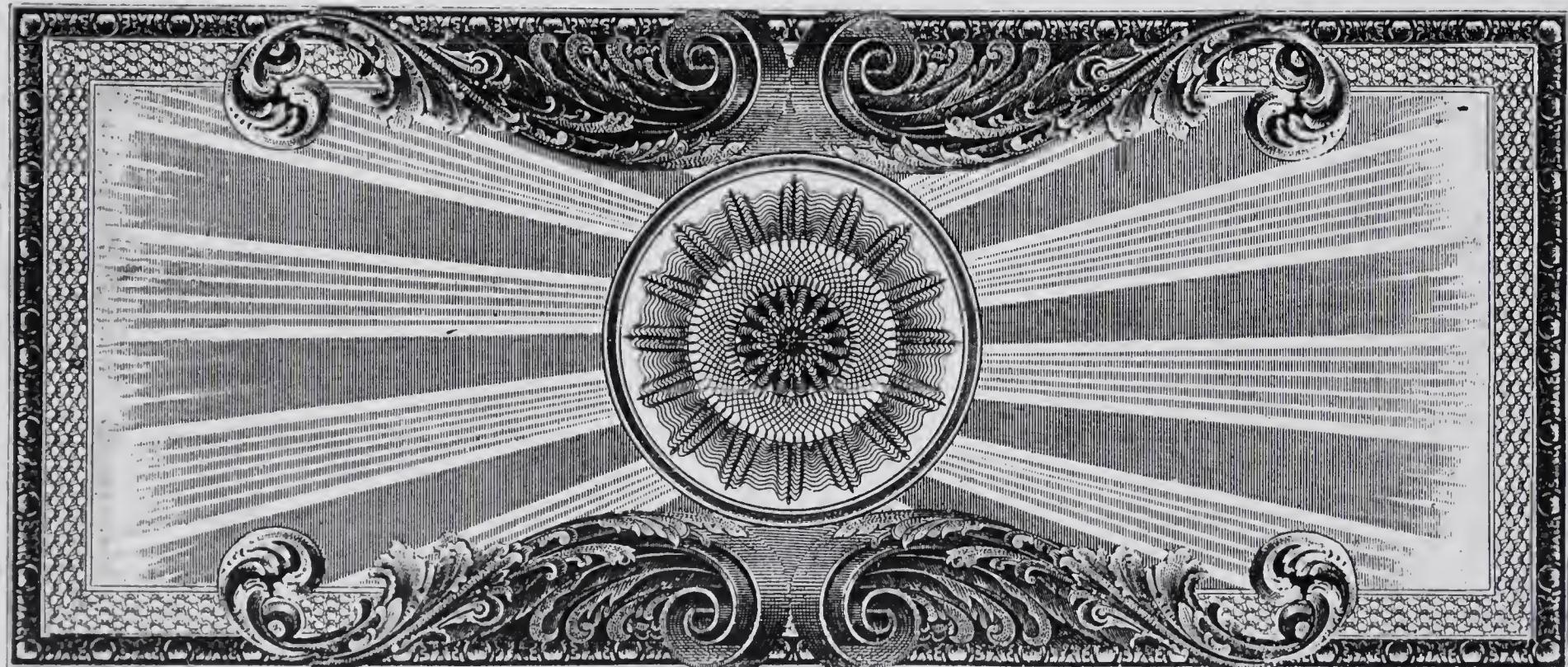
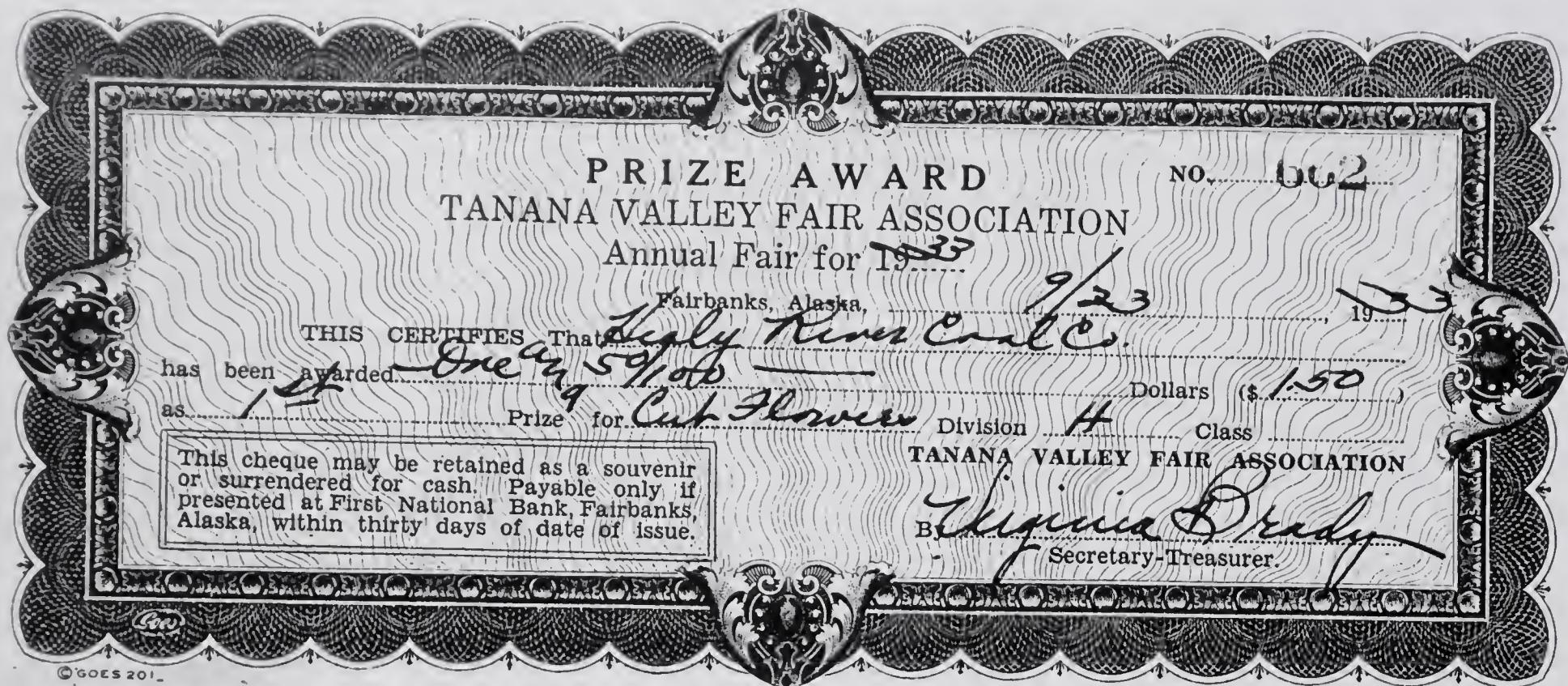


YUKON FLATS, AK: H.A. Yanert. Not a token, but a souvenir item from a trip "outside."



WASILLA, AK: Wasilla Cocktail Bar, 60¢ in trade. Black on wood.

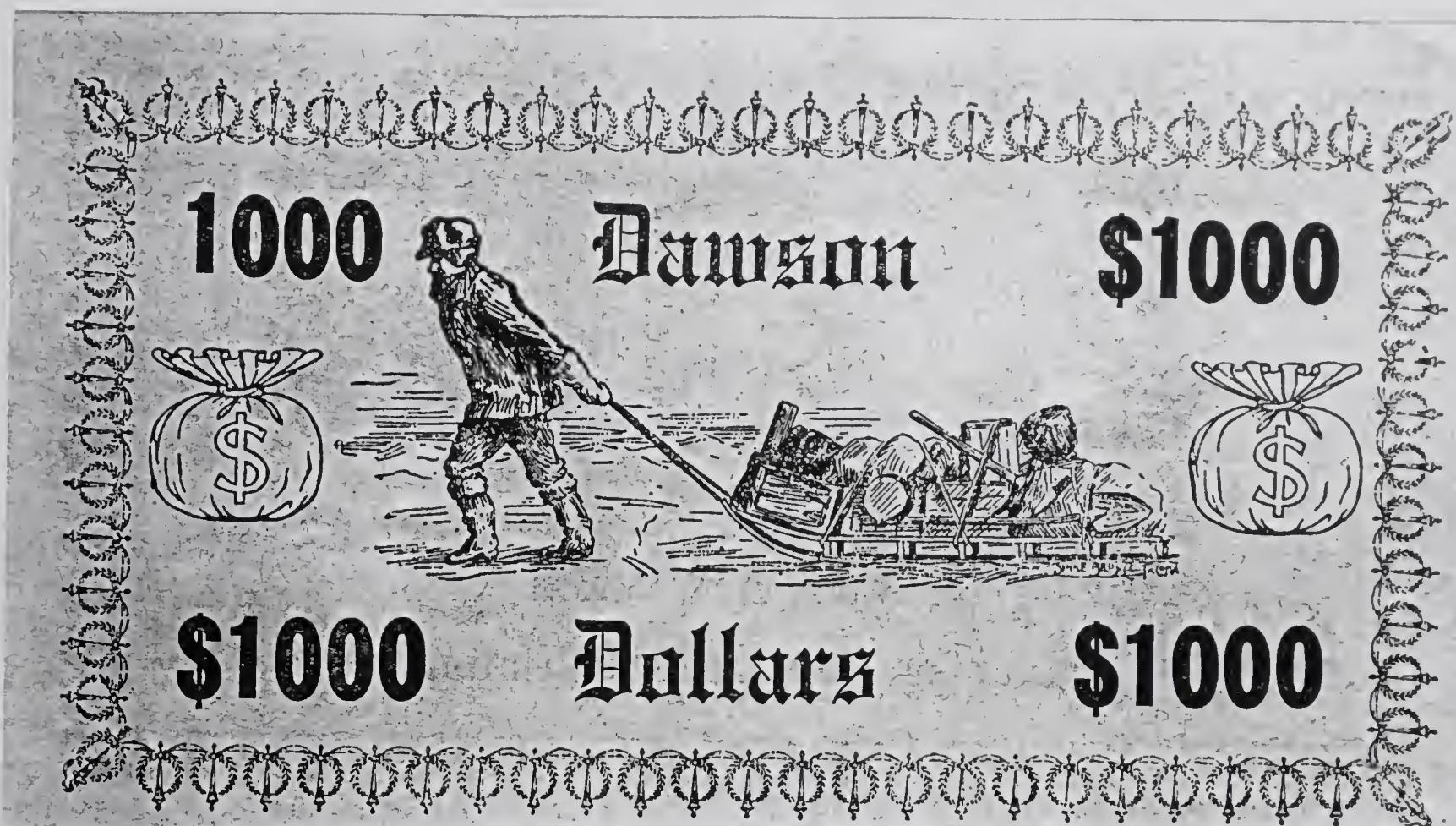
# PAPER POTPOURRI



**FAIRBANKS:** Tanana Valley Fair Association "Prize Award" for 1933. This is an interesting piece, used to pay prize winners in the fair. This was issued to the Healy River Coal Co. for first prize in cut flowers. Printed on a stock form (Goes 201), green on white. Note the box in the lower left corner of the front stating, "This cheque may be retained as a souvenir or surrendered for cash. Payable only if presented at First National Bank, Fairbanks, Alaska within thirty days of date of issue." (Submitted by Candy Waugaman).

**(ELMENDORF AFB & FT. WAINWRIGHT):** The AAFES Bonus Buck shown last month from Ft. Wainwright is also used at Elmendorf, but with the back stamped with "For Deposit Only" with the AAEFS account number (submitted by Bryan E. Cleary).

# DAWSON DOLLARS



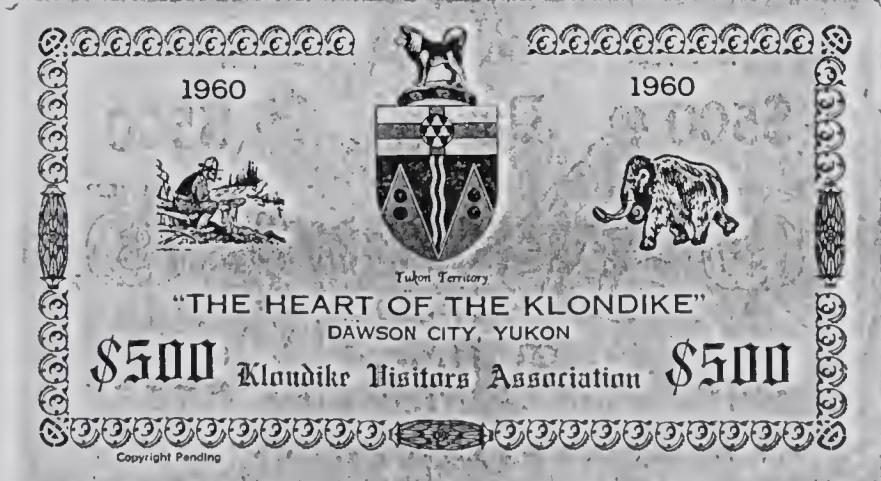
A small quantity of "Dawson Dollars", used in connection with the tourist trade has recently become available to collectors. Illustrated at full size above is the common back. Below are the fronts of the notes, at half size. Note that one is undated, two are dated 1960, while the fourth is dated 1963. All are printed in black on colored paper, approximately 175mm by 96mm.



Undated, pink, Klondike Tourist Bureau - \$10



1960, orange, Klondike Visitors Assn. - \$10



1960, green, Klondike Visitors Assn. - \$10



1963, yellow, Klondike Vistors Assn. - \$10

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551B SECOND AVE.

99707 FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701

(907) 452-6461

**AUCTION: TO BE HELD AT 7:00 P.M., MARCH 15TH IN FAIRBANKS.** These are just the Alaskan items. If you want a complete listing, please call or write to the address above. Phone bids may be called in between 10:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., Monday through Saturday.

## ALASKANA

ESTIMATE

**GOLD NUGGET TOKENS-** These are the most highly desired. While not as rare as some, the romantic appeal cannot be matched by a mere piece of aluminum!



255



256



257



258

255	Anchorage, Native Virgin Gold and Copper, B-30a. Brown, AU.	1,000.00
256	Latouche, Charles E. Sealey, \$1 Worth of Anything, B-3aII. EF or better.	1,200.00+
257	Valdez, Copper Block Buffet, \$1 in Merchandise, B-4cI, VF-EF.	1,000.00
258	Valdez, Copper Block Buffet, \$1 in Merchandise, B-4cII, VF, dark and cleaned. Not bad.	1,000.00

**NATIVE COPPER AND PICTORIAL TOKENS** -Most of the following tokens are "pictorials". This, combined with the fact that they are copper (Alaska was once a major producer of copper) make them an attractive collecting area.

259	Anchorage, Canteen Bar, 12½¢ in Trade, B-10a. EF, pictorial. Also included is a specimen of the Brass restrike. Two pieces.	50.00
260	Chitina, Navada Bar, McCutchen & Griffiths, 12½¢, B-4a. Fine, couple of nicks.	125.00
261	Katalla, The Northern, Smith and Duval, B-5a. Oil Derrick. EF+.	250.00+
262	Latouche, J.W. Little, 12½¢ in Trade. EF+.	150.00
263	Nome, Town scene from ocean, Nome above, blank reverse, 24mm. AU, unlisted. Neat little medal, not unlike the Seward and Valdez tokens. Does not say native copper.	100.00+
264	Seward, The Northern, 12½¢ in Trade, B-8a. Pictorial, EF with some very minor corrosion. This is rare oval variety.	200.00+
265	Seward, The Northern, 12½¢ in Trade, B-8bI. Almost EF, pictorial.	50.00
266	Seward, The Northern, 12½¢ in Trade, B-8bII. AU with lots of mint red, pictorial.	100.00
267	Seward, The Northern, 12½¢ in Trade, B-8bIII. Strong EF, pictorial.	50.00
268	Tonsina, Jake Nafsted, 12½¢ in Trade, B-1a. EF.	200.00
269	Valdez, W.H. Blackwell, "Rowdy", B-2a, EF, pictorial.	200.00
270	Valdez, Copper Block Buffet, 12½¢ Trade Check, B-4a. EF, pictorial.	50.00
271	Valdez, Copper Block Buffet, 12½¢ in Trade, B-4b. EF, pictorial.	50.00
272	Valdez, Knight Island Copper Mining Co., "I am a Stockholder" medal. EF-AU, great pictorial. Knight Island is in Prince William Sound, and was the site of many copper mines in the early part of the century.	300.00

## CLASSIC "PICTORIAL"

273 St. Michael, R.J. Negus, \$1.00 in trade. A nice EF. There is some dispute as to the attribution of this piece to St. Michael, circa 1932. To our eye, the die work and fabrication seems older. In any case, this is the classic piece with the portrait of an Eskimo.



400.00+

## A FEW PIECES OF ALUMINUM AND BRASS

274	Chena, B&K, 12½¢ in trade, B-1a. EF or better.	150.00
275	Circle, Collins & Strait, 1898, 25 Cents/Quarter Dollar, B-1b. F-VF, few dings.	350.00
276	Circle, Collins & Strait, 1898, 1/One Dollar, B-1c. Fine, bent with a few dings.	300.00
277	Circle, Eagle Saloon, Good for One Drink, B-3a. EF-AU, spot.	200.00
278	Cordova, Northern Drug Co., 25 Cents in trade, bi-metal, B-28a. AU/BU.	100.00
279	Douglas, F.H. Kane, 12½¢ in trade, B-25a. VF, cleaned, minor pitting.	250.00
280	Fairbanks, Northern Hotel Pool Room, 25 in merchandise, B-41a. VF, cleaned. Bi-metal.	250.00
281	Fairbanks, Pioneer Hotel, 25¢ in Drinks or Cigars, <u>unlisted</u> . Aluminum, 30mm. Appears dug, VF with a slight bend and some pitting. Not as bad as it sounds.	300.00+
282	Fairbanks, Pioneer Hotel, 25¢ in trade. Another <u>unlisted</u> piece, Aluminum, 30mm. A little more corrosion than the preceding, but still not bad.	300.00+
283	Fairbanks, H. Rappolt's (Bakery), Good for One Loaf Bread, B-48a. AU.	300.00
284	Fairbanks, Red, White & Blue Cigar Store, 25 Cents, B-49a. EF, cleaned.	200.00
285	Hope, A.F. Davis, Good for One Smile (=Drink), B-1a. EF.	350.00
286	Klawock, N.P.T.&P. Co., 50¢, B-1a. AU.	400.00

## ALASKAN MEDALS

287	Eskimo Olympics, 1965, 1966 and 1967, three sets of silver and bronze. The complete set with matching serial numbers struck by Metal Arts Co. of Rochester, NY. Very attractive and popular.	45.00
288	Alaskan Medal. Visit of President Reagan and Pope John Paul II to Fairbanks, May 2nd, 1984. One ounce pure silver, #15 of only 50 that were numbered. Scarce.	50.00
289	Alaskan Medals. 25th Anniversary of Statehood, 1984. "Alaska" on map on the obverse, a Cache on the reverse. One ounce pure silver in flips with original cards. 5 pieces.	125.00
290	Alaska Railroad <u>GOLD</u> Medal, 1985. These were struck to celebrate the transfer of the Alaska Railroad from the Federal government to the State of Alaska. The obverse is of Engine 1500, one of the famous diesel engines on the line. The reverse is of Denali and states One Troy Oz. Gold .999 Pure." The serial number is 33. Only 49 were struck, but some of the serial numbers were higher because customers were allowed to pick a number between 1 and 100. These are very beautiful and this is the first we have handled in years. They originally sold for \$550.	600.00+
291	State of Alaska Silver Medals, 1990, complete set of 4 with original flips. This was only the second year of the State program with the Walrus on the obverse. The one ounce coin is an error with mostly a plain edge except for one area where the reading is just visible (referred to as a railroad rim, the blank was not properly seated in the collar). Consequently, the medal is struck a bit off-center. A very unusual error. The set includes the 1/10, ¼, ½, and 1 ounce medals. Scarce.	100.00+
292	Alaska Prospectors Baseball Team, 1995 and 1996. Set of two 1 oz. silver medals. The Prospectors are a Men's Senior (30+) baseball team that travel to Phoenix, AZ every November for the Men's Senior Baseball League World Series. Only 50 of the 1995 were struck and only 31 of the 1996.	75.00

A.R.C. • P.O. Box 72832, Fairbanks, Alaska 99707 • (907) 452-6461 • Subscription \$10.00/year

VOLUME XIX, NUMBER 4.

APRIL, 1997.

# THOSE \$1.10 TOKENS

By Ronald J. Benice



Four cataloguers (myself included) of Alaska and Yukon tokens have described the \$1.10 tokens issued by the North American Trading and Transportation Company in addition to the more conventional 25¢, 50¢, and \$1.00 denominations. No one has offered an explanation as to why anyone would have wanted \$1.10 tokens.

There has been speculation that they are errors. That seems unlikely, and the tokens would certainly have been destroyed rather than circulated. There has been speculation that, since the company operated in both the United States and Canada, the denomination had something to do with international exchange rates. But no rationale could be found.

Since I grew up on the U.S.-Canada border, I was accustomed to the differences in values between the American and Canadian dollars. In fact, the difference was 10% back then. So I decided to probe the exchange rates in the 1890s. Through the assistance of the Library of Congress, I obtained pages from a rather remarkable publication, *Statistics for the United States 1867-1909*, compiled by the National Monetary Commission. It has exchange rates between the U.S. and major European currencies on a daily (!) basis for those years. Through the American Numismatic Association library, I obtained McCullough's *Money and Exchange in Canada to 1900*, which has average monthly rates for Canadian and British currency.

These quickly brought me to a dead end. Canada's Decimal Currency Act of 1858 set the Canadian dollar at the same rate as the American dollar (\$4.8666) relative to one pound Sterling. Actual rates in the 1890s fluctuated within 1% of this standard.

McCullough did open a new possibility. He described the mid-19th century practice among Canadian bankers, merchants and exchange dealers of using the \$4.8666 rate for currency transactions or minor coins but a rate of \$4.4444 when dealing with silver dollars or American gold coins. Interestingly, the ratio between these two rates is \$1.095, which rounds quite nicely to \$1.10. He didn't say when the dual rate system was discontinued, but did hint that some old financial practices persisted longer on the western frontier than in the rest of the country.

So it remains an interesting possibility that the \$1.10 tokens were used as change for payments in gold or silver while the \$1.00 tokens were used with paper or minor coins.

# EDITORIAL

We were very pleased with the outcome of our March 15th auction. Many nice tokens found new homes. While several bidders ended up with the choice pieces, the rest was spread among other bidders rather fairly. Please note that the mail bidders saved \$3668 below their maximum bids! Our thanks to all who participated.

We know that some will be saddened to see the prices escalate, but that is the nature of a free market. We can remember several years when the market for Alaskan tokens seemed all but dead. The rarities were selling, but nothing else. It can only be hoped that we are now entering a phase of expansion, with new collectors competing for the limited supply of tokens.

This month, we have a mail bid sale of Alaskan military tokens. Please note that the choice piece in the auction is lot number 1, Fort Gibbon 25 cents. We expect spirited bidding on this lot. Hopefully, there is a piece to fill a hole in your collection. Read the catalogue number carefully and make sure they match the description! Any questions, please call.

Ron Benice's speculation on the \$1.10 NAT&T token is very interesting. What other possible reason could their be? The only one that comes to mind is that NAT&T were buying something.... for which they paid \$1.10. Cord wood? Salmon? Reindeer dung? I think that Ron may have hit the nail on the head!

Next Month: Ferdinand and George Roll!

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1/5 page, business card size - \$15 for 5 issues.

Classified ads: 20 cents per line.

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# KLONDYKE HOTEL



Unfortunately, it is not from Alaska and the Yukon! The pocket mirror illustrated above is from Mahandy City, Pennsylvania. It is printed black on cream or white.

## BUYING - WANTED FOR RESEARCH & RECORDING

CANADIAN & U.S.A. CHAUFFEURS BADGES AND LICENCES, DR. LICENCES, BADGES, PAPER DRIVERS LICENCES, PERMITS, MOTOR VEHICLE & INSPECTION BADGES AND PATCHES, DRIVERS MANUALS & RELATED ITEMS, TAXI & BUS DRIVERS BADGES, LIMOUSINE AND TRANSIT. D.A.V. - WAR AMPS & T.B. VETS KEY TAGS. B.C. ELECTRIC AND OTHER TRANSPORTATION, FIRE ARMS, WARDENS, FORESTRY.

## ALSO WANTED - YUKON - ALASKA - N.W.T.

ALSO WANTED TO BUY ALL LICENCES AND BADGES, PATCHES, TAGS, PLATES - METAL, PAPER, FIBER. URGENT: WE NEED YUKON CHAUFFEURS BADGES. TOP PRICE PAID.

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**CANADA V6B 4A6**

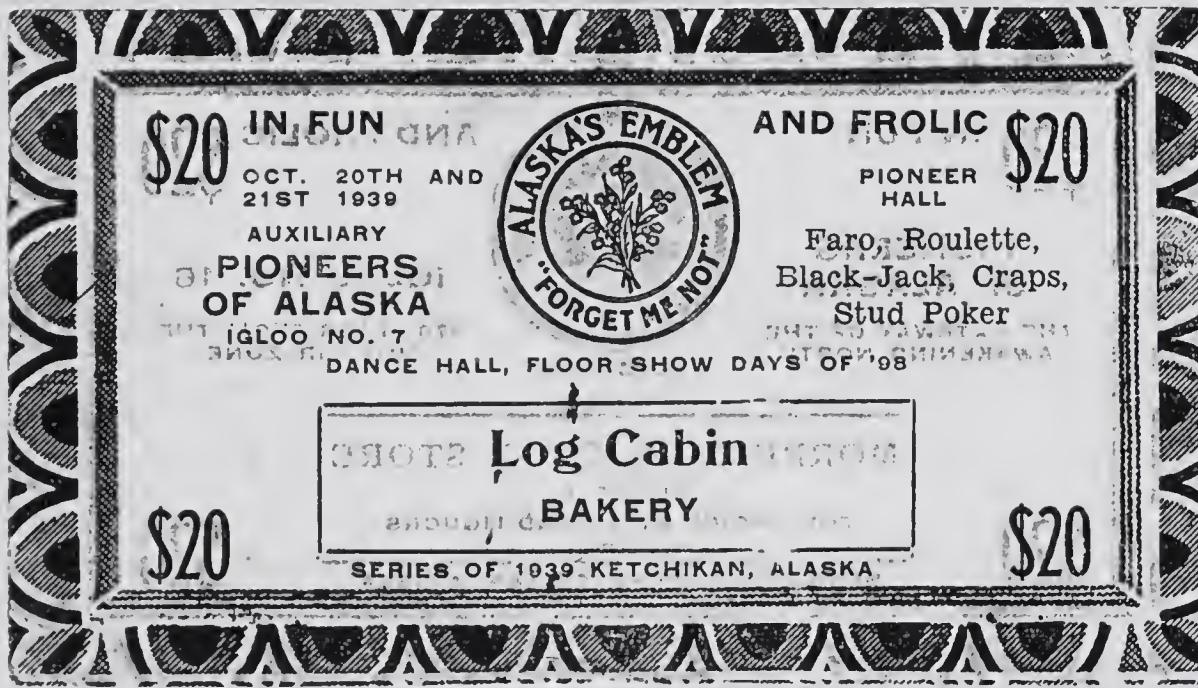
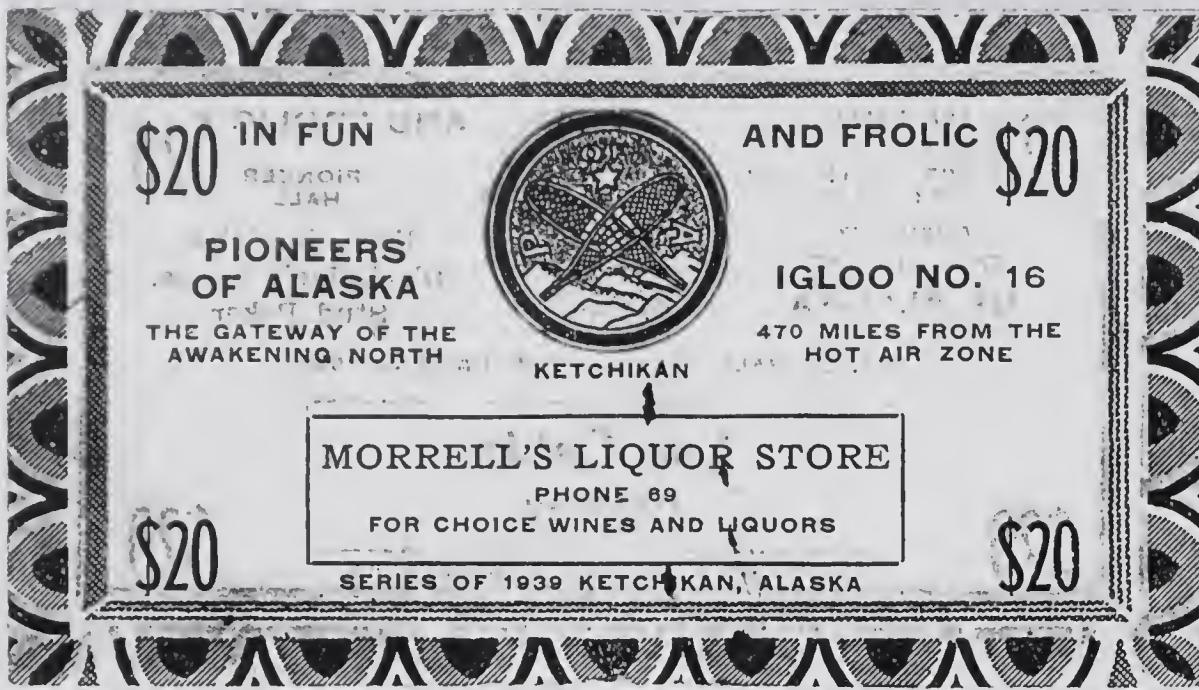
**PHONE (604) 596-6303**

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(exp. #10/96)

**WANTED: MEDALLIC ART AND ANYTHING ALASKAN/CANADIAN HAVING TO DO WITH DOG SLED RACING. ALSO WANTED OLDER SILVER AND BRONZE ART BARS, ROUNDS, FRANKLIN MINT AND NEON BEER SIGNS. SASE GETS 22 PAGE LIST OF TRADES. AL FISHER, BOX 20565, OAKLAND, CA 94620. TEL. 510-530-8089. (exp. #10/97)**

# PAPER POTPOURRI



KETCHIKAN: Pioneers of Alaska, Oct. 20th and 21st, 1939. Dance Hall, Floor Show Days of '98. Front above, back below. Black on light green, very light paper, 120mm by 68mm.



front



back

Similar to above, but with different ads in the boxes. Black on pale yellow or cream.



front



back

Similar to above, but with different ads in the boxes. Black on yellow.

# PRICES REALIZED

# ICE ART '96 (1997)

Transportation tokens, February 15, 1997:

Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid
1	no.bid	12	7.00
2	no.bid	13	8.00
3	10.00	14	10.00
4	10.50	15	30.00
5	415.00*	16	28.60
6	11.55*	17	102.00
7	19.80*	18	6.00
8	37.00	19	10.50
9	5.00	20	14.85*
10	10.00	21	107.50
11	9.00	22	no.bid

Gambling Chips, February 15, 1997:

23	22.40*	29	10.00
24	6.00	30	12.00
25	11.55*	31	16.00*
26	19.25*	32	12.00
27	10.50	33	13.00*
28	13.20*	34	5.00

\* = REDUCED BID

ALASKA TOKENS, March 15, 1997.

Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid
255	1200*	274	240
256	2200*	275	420*
257	800	276	320*
258	555	277	265*
259	55*	278	110
260	90*	279	340
261	335*	280	400*
262	130*	281	450*
263	310*	282	350*
264	210	283	455*
265	57*	284	340*
266	115*	285	800*
267	40*	286	1000*
268	210*	287	60
269	235	288	51
270	64*	289	80
271	55*	290	610
272	445*	291	60
273	950*	292	50

\* = REDUCED BID. Those items without \* were sold at the maximum mail bid or to a floor bidder. The total amount that the bids in this section of the auction were reduced was \$3668.

Overall, we feel it was a strong auction, with most items selling above the estimate. This is encouraging, and more will be in the October auction.



Above are two multicolored, commemorative phone cards issued by Ice Art, the local ice carving competition. Shown on the cards are carvings from the 1996 competition, hence the legend "Ice Art '96". This competition draws carvers from around the world including Europe, China and Russia. These are limited to 100 cards. Below is the back, printed black on white. They are available by mail from David Ways, P.O. Box 72103, Fairbanks, AK 99707 for \$10 per card and \$1 per order shipping and handling.

Also shown above is a participant's medal. It is uniface, brass, 38mm. It was designed by Anita Tabour.

STRATEGIC Telecom Systems, Inc. **STS**

## How To Use Your Prepaid Phone Card

- 1 From any touchtone telephone dial 1-800-237-2385
- 2 Wait for voice prompt, then enter: 0683-5710-640
- 3 Dial area code and number.
- 4 To make another call, do not hang up, press # # and listen for voice prompt.

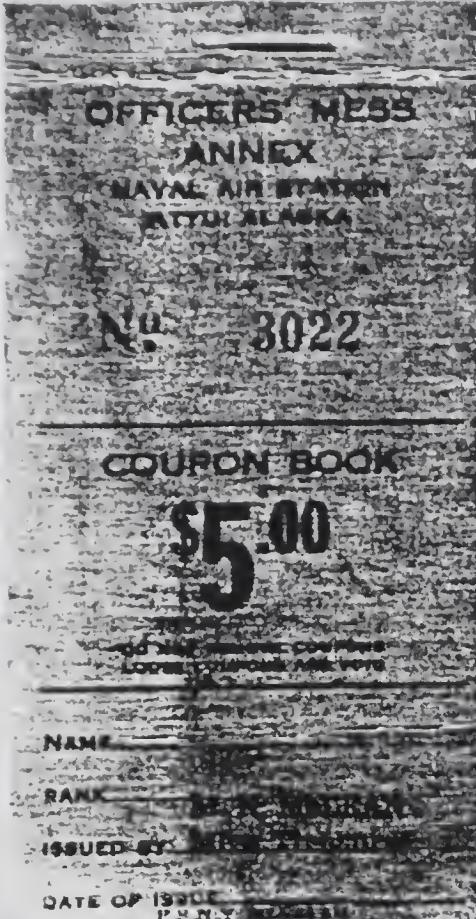
10 Units

Network services provided by Athens International L.C.C.  
For Customer Service dial 1-800-818-8833.

Card Expires 8/98

4 of 100

Control Number 570902



Ron Benice sent in the above photocopy from *World War II Remembered* by C. Frederick Schwan and Joseph E. Boling. In part, the caption with the illustration reads:

"The booklet cover for Attu includes an imprint indicating that it was printed in January 1944, which was only a few months after the Japanese were driven from the island. The imprint also indicates that 5000 booklets were printed."

This really is a neat book (we have seen a copy, and have one on order). If you would like a copy, contact BNR Press at 800-793-0683.

## THE NORTHERNER

John Cheramy sent us a copy of this club publication. It is the newsletter of the Northern Canada Study Group of the Postal History Society of Canada.

The issue we received was the February 1997 issue runs about 30 pages. It is mostly postal history of Northwest Territories, Yukon and Labrador. One item of numismatic interest - a check from Louis Schulz Limited of Atlin, BC dated 1945. There are even a few Alaskan related items, like a cover from Hotel Olympic of Dyea dated 1898!

This publication is a fine companion to the Alaskan Philatelist. Both are great sources of local history from the philatelic aspect. Approximately 5 issues per year at \$10US. Contact Ian Mowat, 790 Cuaulta Crescent, Victoria, BC V9C 3H3.



This meal punch card is an interesting piece. While we cannot positively attribute it to Alaska, we can provide the following information.

Elwood W. Moyer (Gent's furnishings) and E.W. Littlejohn (wharfinger) are both found in the 1901 Gazetteer in Skagway. Are Mrs. Moyer and Mrs. Littlejohn their wives? This is the only time from 1901 to 1912 that the names Moyer and Littlejohn are found in the same place at the same time. While not a positive attribution, these are not overly common names, and to find them in the same small town at the same time at least gives us a smoking gun.

## ANOTHER PHONECARD



Another limited issue phonecard, this commemorating the '97 Open North American dog sled race. Back similar to Ice Art '96 cards, but only 50 were issued. Available from David Ways, P.O. Box 72103, Fairbanks, AK 99707 for \$10 per card plus \$1 postage and handling (shipping charge can be combined with Ice Art '96 cards).

## FOR THE RECORD



**ANCHORAGE:** Great Alaska Bush Company, fluorescent orange sticker with black printing on 1972-D Ike Dollar (submitted by Kurtis Hawk).



**CORDOVA:** Moose Lodge 1266, 60th Anniversary, 1986, good for one drink. Brass, 34mm (submitted by Kurtis Hawk).



**HAINES:** Haines Chamber of Commerce, Centennial, 1979-1981. One ounce silver round (submitted by Kurtis Hawk).



**KETCHIKAN:** Moose Lodge No. 224, \$1.00 in trade. Aluminum, 34mm (submitted by Kurtis Hawk).



**KETCHIKAN:** Alaska's First City, Alexander Archipelago, Alaska's Inside Passage. One ounce silver round (submitted by Kurtis Hawk).



**KODIAK:** Bicentennial of Kodiak, St. Paul Harbor. Silver round, 39mm (submitted by Kurtis Hawk).



**ALASKA:** Bear with fish, 1992. Reverse is flag raising at Iwo Jima, U.S. Marine Corps. 1 troy oz. fine silver. Made by the Alaska Mint.



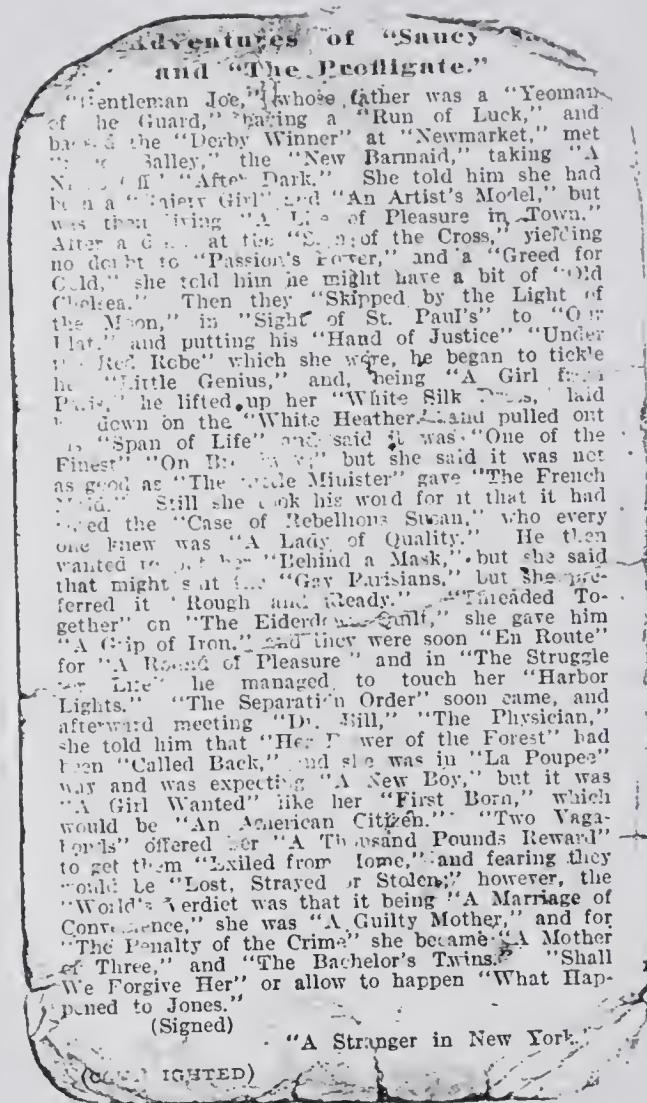
**WHITEHORSE, Y.T.:** Gold Rush Inn aluminum medal similar to previous issue struck in bronze and silver. Reportedly used as a drink token. Aluminum, 39mm, 4mm thick (submitted by Jim Robb).



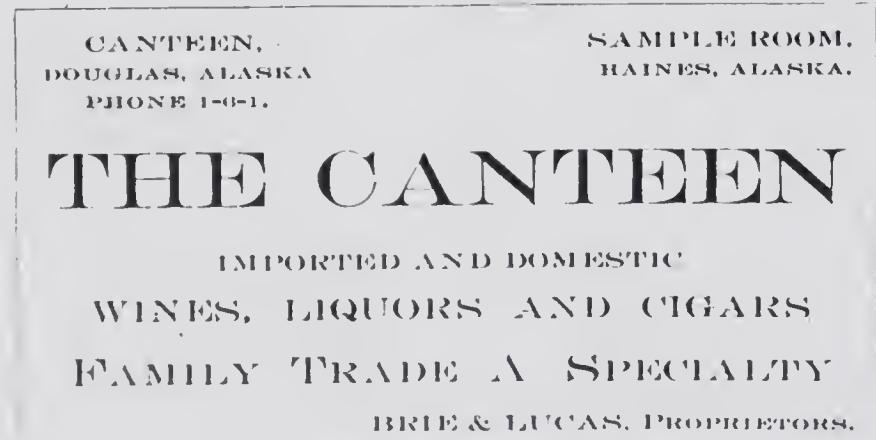
**YUKON:** Klondike Gold Rush Centennial, 1997. First of a projected four medal series, honoring a "Century of Transportation." Designed by Ann Doyle's Art Studio, struck by the Alaska Mint. Limited to 5,000. Priced at \$89.00 Canadian. One ounce pure silver.

**LOOK OVER THE MAIL BID SALE ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES. BID WITH CONFIDENCE.**

# SOUTHEAST ALASKA BUSINESS CARDS



JUNEAU: An interesting card from The Comet. Unfortunately, the condition is pretty poor. The story on the back is a bit risqué!



DOUGLAS & HAINES: Brie and Lucas had businesses in both Haines and Douglas. A nice card documenting the partnership.

# ALASKAN MILITARY TOKENS

**Alaska Rare Coins, 551-B Second Ave., Fairbanks, Alaska 99701 phone 907-452-6461**

The following tokens and groups of tokens are offered to the highest bidder. There are no minimum or reserve bids. Estimates are not minimums. Bids reduced to 10% over second highest bid, however bids under \$10 will not be reduced, and no bid will be reduced by more than 50%. Otherwise, standard TACT rules apply. Please bid by lot number.

Tokens are listed by Benice and Cunningham numbers. Grades are XF to BU unless noted. Descriptions are short, so please call if you have any questions. We have been in the Alaskan token business for over 20 years. This is the first time we have seen some of these offered. While these are relative new comers to the token field, most are from remote sites in Alaska and are virtually unobtainable. Bid early, and with confidence that your bid will be reduced where possible.

**Closing date is April 25, 1997.**

Lot	Description	Benice #	Cunn#	Estimate
01	<b>Ft. Gibbon</b> , Post Exchange, 25¢ in trade. VF or better. A little dirty, very slight bend. Not as bad as it sounds, a very rare token.	B-1b	AK300b	400.00+
02	<b>Adak</b> , C.P.O. Club, no denomination	unlisted	AK10	10.00
03	<b>Campion A.F.S.</b> , 743rd AC&W Sq., NCO Open Mess, \$1 in trade	B-1b	AK30b	20.00
04	<b>Cape Lisbourne</b> , 711 AC&W NCO Open Mess, \$1 in trade	B-1a	AK50	25.00
05	<b>(Cape Newenham)</b> , 794 AC&W Sq. NCO Open Mess, 25¢ in trade	B-1e	AK60h	20.00
06	<b>(Cape Newenham)</b> , 794 AC&W Sq. NCO Open Mess, \$1 in trade (alum.)	B-1i	AK60j	20.00
07	<b>(Cape Newenham)</b> , 794 AC&W Sq. NCO Open Mess, \$1 in trade (brass)	B-1j	AK60e	20.00
08	<b>Cape Romanzof</b> , NCO Club, \$1 in trade	B-1a	AK80	25.00
09	<b>Eielson A.F.B.</b> , Airmen's Annex, \$1 in trade	B-1bi	AK120a	15.00
10	<b>Eielson A.F.B.</b> , NCO Chevron Club, 50¢ in trade	B-2a	AK140	10.00
11	<b>Eielson A.F.B.</b> , NCO Open Mess, \$1 in trade	B-3d	AK190b	12.00
12	<b>Eielson A.F.B.</b> , NCO Open Mess, \$1 in trade	B-3e	AK180	10.00
13	<b>Eielson A.F.B.</b> , NCO Open Mess Annex, 50¢ in trade	B-4a	AK200	12.00
14	<b>Eielson A.F.B.</b> , NCO Rocker Club, 50¢ in trade	B-5a	AK210	12.00
15	<b>Eielson A.F.B.</b> , NCO Rocker Club, 50¢ in trade (black)	B-5bi	AK220d	8.00
16	<b>Eielson A.F.B.</b> , NCO Rocker Club, 50¢ in trade (green)	B-5bii	AK220c	8.00
17	<b>(Eielson A.F.B.)</b> , NCO Club, set of 3; 5, 25 and 50¢, attribution questionable	unlisted	AK170abc	10.00
18	<b>(Eielson A.F.B.)</b> , Airmen's Annex, 5¢ in trade, attribution questionable	unlisted	unlisted	5.00
19	<b>Elmendorf A.F.B.</b> , Civilian Club, set of 4; 5, 10, 25¢ and \$1.	B-1abcf	AK250bcd	40.00
20	<b>Elmendorf A.F.B.</b> , NCO Open Mess, \$1 in trade; (2) alum., (1) brs, 3 pcs.	B-2 mixed	AK240 mixed	20.00
21	<b>Elmendorf A.F.B.</b> , Officers' Open Mess, 10 cents chit	B-3b	unlisted	10.00
22	<b>Fire Island</b> , NCO Open Mess, 50¢ in trade	B-1di	AK280a	12.00
23	<b>Fire Island</b> , NCO Open Mess, 50¢ in trade	B-1dii	AK290	12.00
24	<b>Fort Greely</b> , NCO Open Mess, \$5 book of chits, cardboard, punch cancelled.	B-1a-cii	unlisted	100.00
25	<b>Fort Greely</b> , NCO Open Mess as above, but paper stock, uncancelled	B-1a-ci	unlisted	100.00
26	<b>Fort Richardson</b> , Officer's Open Mess, set of 3; (2) 50¢, one with hole and one without and (1) \$1. The late Dave Fronius thought that the hole was made to distinguish the 50¢ from the \$1, and that only 30 escaped this treatment.	B-2a,b	AK550a,b	20.00
27	<b>Fort Wainwright</b> , 49 Open Mess, \$5 book of chits, punch cancelled.	B-2a-c	unlisted	100.00
28	<b>Fort Wainwright</b> , NCO OM, 25¢ in trade	B-4a	AK730	35.00
29	<b>Fort Wainwright</b> , Barber Shops, one haircut	B-1a	AK710	30.00
30	<b>Fort Wainwright</b> , Alaska Youth Activities, 10 Cents, black on red ticket	unlisted	unlisted	10.00
31	<b>Fort Wainwright</b> , Alaska Youth Activities, 10 Cents, black on green ticket	unlisted	unlisted	10.00
32	<b>Fort Wainwright/Eielson A.F.B.</b> , one haircut, 1967 Purchase Centennial	unlisted	AK720	10.00
33	<b>(Indian Mountain)</b> , 708 NCO Open Mess, 5¢ in trade (blue)	B-1ai	AK320b	20.00
34	<b>(Indian Mountain)</b> , 708 NCO Open Mess, 10¢ in trade (blue)	B-1bi	AK320c	20.00
35	<b>(Indian Mountain)</b> , 708 NCO Open Mess, 25¢ in trade (blue)	B-1ci	AK320d	20.00
36	<b>(Indian Mountain)</b> , 708 NCO Open Mess, \$1 in trade (blue)	B-1ei	AK320f	20.00
37	<b>(Indian Mountain)</b> , 708 NCO Open Mess, 5¢ in trade (red)	B-1a(ii)	AK320g	20.00
38	<b>(Indian Mountain)</b> , 708 NCO Open Mess, 25¢ in trade (red)	B-1c(ii)	AK320i	20.00
39	<b>King Salmon</b> , NCO Club, \$1 in Merchandise, (alum., 34mm)	B-1a	unlisted?	30.00
40	<b>King Salmon</b> , NCO Club, \$1 in Mdse.(brass, 36mm)	B-1b	unlisted	30.00

# ALASKAN MILITARY TOKENS

Alaska Rare Coins, P.O. Box 72832, Fairbanks, Alaska 99707 phone 907-452-6461

41	King Salmon, NCO Club, \$1 in Merchandise, (red alum., 32mm)	unlisted	unlisted	30.00
42	Kodiak, Marine Enlisted Club, \$5 book of chits, uncancelled.	B-7a-cii	unlisted	100.00
43	Kodiak N.O.B., rope design, letter and number incuse on reverse, brass	B-10a	AK360	25.00
44	Kodiak N.O.B., NOB Kodiak on both sides, nickel	B-10b	AK370	15.00
45	Kodiak N.O.B., Milk Token	B-10d	AK380	100.00
46	Kodiak U.S. Naval Air Base, Carpenter's Local 2162 (probably a transportation token, B-T2a)	B-15a	AK350	100.00
47	Kotzebue, NCO Club A-GO-GO, set of 4; 5, 10, 25¢ and \$1.	B-2, a-d	AK420a-d	100.00
48	Ladd A.F.B., Civilian Club, 10¢ bottle deposit (blue)	B-1ai	AK460c	20.00
49	Ladd A.F.B., 449th Airmen's Club, \$5 book of chits, uncancelled	B-2a-c	unlisted	100.00
50	Murphy Dome, Murphy Dome Gold, 25¢	B-1a	AK480	4.00
51	Murphy Dome, Open Mess, set of 2; 10 and 25¢	B-2b,c	AK510b,c	20.00
52	Murphy Dome, NCO Open Mess, set of 4; 5, 10, 25 and 50¢ in trade	B-3a,c,d,e	AK500acef	50.00
53	Murphy Dome, 744 AC&W NCO Open Mess, \$1 in trade	B-3f	AK520g	20.00
54	Northeast Cape, 712th NCO Open Mess, 5¢ in trade	B-1a	AK530a	20.00
55	Northeast Cape, 712th NCO Open Mess, 10¢ in trade, edge nicks, bent	B-1b	AK530b	15.00
56	Northeast Cape, 712th NCO Open Mess, 25¢ in trade	B-1c	AK530unl	20.00
57	Shemya, NCO Club, set of 3; 25 and 50¢ and \$1 in trade	B-1b-d	AK600b-d	45.00
58	Shemya, NCO Open Mess, set of 3; 5 and 25¢ and \$1, hexagonal	B-2a,e,i	AK610d,e,g	45.00
59	Shemya, NCO Open Mess, set of 3 as above, but round	B-2b,f,j	AK610a,b,c	45.00
60	Shemya, NCO Open Mess, 5 and 10¢ in merchandise (green)	B-2c,d	AK630a,b	30.00
61	Shemya, NCO Open Mess, 50¢ and \$1 in merchandise (red and yellow)	B-2g,k	AK620d,g?	30.00
62	(Sparrevohn), 719th ACW Sqdn., 5¢ in trade (brass)	B-1b	AK660a	20.00
63	(Sparrevohn), 719th ACW Sqdn., 10¢ in trade (brass)	B-1d	AK660b	20.00
64	(Sparrevohn), 719th ACW Sqdn., 25¢ in trade (brass)	B-1f	AK660c	20.00
65	(Sparrevohn), 719th ACW Sqdn., \$5 in trade	B-1k	AK660i	30.00
66	Tatalina, NCO Open Mess, Support Your Club	B-1a	AK670	10.00
67	Tin City, NCO Club, set of 4; 5, 10, 25¢ and \$1	B-1a-d	AK680a-d	50.00
68	Tin City, NCO Club, \$1 in trade, yellow alum.	B-1e	AK680e	25.00
69	Unalakleet, 718 ACWRON NCO Club, 25¢ in trade	B-1a	AK700b	30.00
70	Wildwood, NCO Club, set of 4; 5, 10, 25¢ and \$1 in merchandise	B-1abce	AK750abce	95.00

**CLOSING DATE: APRIL 25, 1997**

**SEND BIDS TO:**

**ALASKA RARE COINS, P.O Box 72832, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99707**  
**or phone 907-452-6461**

## BOOK REVIEW

*1997 Guide of Newfoundland & Labrador Trade Dollars, Medals and Medallions* by Peter Kanis, 11 Mercer Rd., Cambridge, Ontario, Canada N1R 5A6. Released mid-March at \$6.95 postpaid.

The 52 page (5.5 by 8.5 inches) catalogue is bound with a blue card cover and divided into two sections: municipal trade tokens (trade dollars) and medals. Municipal tokens are catalogued on 29 pages, while the medals are on 12 pages. The remaining pages contain introductory material or titles.

In each of the two sections, the municipal token or medal

is listed under their issuing municipality, and the municipalities are listed in alphabetical order. At the top of the page, a short descriptive text about each municipality is given. The following data is presented for each piece catalogued: the name of the issue or its purpose; the issuer; an actual size photo of both sides; the date of the piece; a brief description of that is shown on both sides; the mint; diameter; metal, mintage; and valuation. All metallic formats for each piece are catalogued.

-Jerry Renick

## THE ROLL BROTHERS

From ROLL BROS. SITKA, ALASKA

SEATTLE, WASH.

June 8. 1904

No. 151

→ DEXTER HORTON & CO. BANKERS. →

PAY TO

W. C. Roll & Co. Ltd. —

SEATTLE, WASH.

JUN 21

OR ORDER

\$ 36 45

XXXXXX XXXX ~~Thirty Six~~ ~~45~~ ~~100~~ — DOLLARS

\$ 36 45 ~~100~~

Roll Brothers

"Gentlemen: We will thank you to remit amount due us for goods sold for our a/c to the Puget Sound National Bank at Seattle, Washington asking them to place same to the credit of a/c of Turn-Again Arm Trading Co., of Hope City, Alaska." Thus, on June 18, 1896, the Roll Brothers wrote on their stationary still bearing the San Antonio, Texas address requesting payment be made to their new company and indicating their relocation to Hope City, Alaska. This and other interesting documents were found in the Sitka Men's Store on Lincoln St., where Ferdinand Roll had his business.

Loren Stephens has correspondence that seems to indicate that the brothers stayed in Hope until 1903, when business was so bad, that Ferdinand moved on to Sitka. However, other evidence seems to contradict this. In Hope, the store was in the old Alaska Commercial Store building (built about 1896-7 according to the Hope & Sunrise Historical Society), and remained for about 40 years. The photo at the right is from a tourist brochure of the Hope & Sunrise Historical Society, attributed to the 1930's. If this building dates from 1896, the Roll brothers could not have occupied it at that time.



Hope & Sunrise Historical Society

We have access to an index to Gazetteers from 1901 to 1912 and additional Gazetteers for 1915-16 and 1923-24. Both George and Ferdinand are shown in Sitka from 1901 to 1903. This seems to indicate that the brothers did not stay in Hope very long, but moved on to Sitka. It seems that George returned to Hope about 1904, about the time the partnership dissolved.

George is present in all Gazetteers that we examined from 1901 to 1923-24, but does not appear in Hope until 1905 (there was no 1904 Gazetteer. He is also shown as the Postmaster of Hope in the 1909-10, 1911-12 and 1915-16 Gazetteers.

(continued on page 35)

## EDITORIAL

Our thanks to Loren Stephens for supplying the bulk of the information and specimens for the Roll Brothers article. Some of our "research" contradicts what Loren has in his collection of correspondence. As he stated in a phone conversation with us, the hand writing is hard to read and, since they were German, some of the letters appear to be in German. Perhaps a further examination of the correspondence will clear up what appear to be discrepancies between the letters and the Gazetteers.

A few items are offered for sale in this issue. Most are limited to a few pieces, so if there is something here that you want, please order early. Please include \$3 for postage and insurance per order.

As I write this, the Mail Bid has not closed yet, but so far the bidding has been satisfactory. You will find the prices realized on page 37. These show which bids were reduced and a total of the reductions is given. Research Assistance and Want List Service is also offered on page 37.

## BUYING - WANTED FOR RESEARCH & RECORDING

CANADIAN & U.S.A. CHAUFFEURS BADGES AND LICENCES, DR. LICENCES, BADGES, PAPER DRIVERS LICENCES, PERMITS, MOTOR VEHICLE & INSPECTION BADGES AND PATCHES, DRIVERS MANUALS & RELATED ITEMS, TAXI & BUS DRIVERS BADGES, LIMOUSINE AND TRANSIT. D.A.V. - WAR AMPS & T.B. VETS KEY TAGS. B.C. ELECTRIC AND OTHER TRANSPORTATION, FIRE ARMS, WARDENS, FORESTRY.

### ALSO WANTED - YUKON - ALASKA - N.W.T.

ALSO WANTED TO BUY ALL LICENCES AND BADGES, PATCHES, TAGS, PLATES - METAL, PAPER, FIBER. URGENT: WE NEED YUKON CHAUFFEURS BADGES. TOP PRICE PAID.

CANADIAN PARKS BADGES, PASSES, WINDSHIELD STICKERS, PLATES, WILDLIFE, GAME DEPT., AND HUNTING TAGS, FISHING LICENCES & BADGES, FIREARMS, DOG TAGS & OTHER ANIMAL TAGS, BADGES, LICENCES, PATCHES, VEHICLE & BICYCLE LIC., MOTOR CYCLE, SINGLE & DOUBLE DRAYS, MESSENGER, COURIER, DELIVERY, SAMPLES, ETC. CANVASSERS, PEDDLERS, VENDORS, NEWS BOY, NEWS VENDORS & NEWS AGENT, WAITRESS, BELL HOPS, TOLL COLLECTORS, PARKING METER, BRIDGE PASSES & BADGES, HWY PATROL, B.C. TEL., POLICE BADGES & PATCHES, BRINKS AND LOOMIS, RAILWAY, FERRIES, SHIPS, ETC.

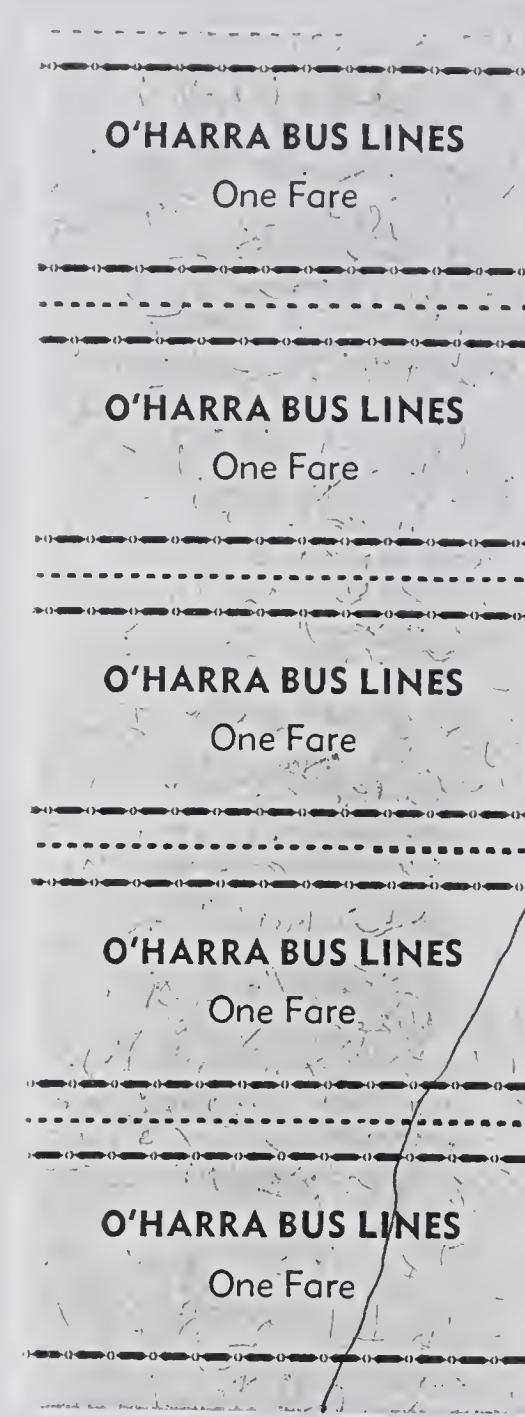
BUYING OR WILL TRADE OUR DUPLICATES, ALONG WITH POLICE BADGES & PATCHES, CANADIAN, U.S. & WORLD COINS, STAMPS, PAPER MONEY, TOKENS, MEDALS & MEDALLIONS, MILITARY BADGES AND PINS, WATCHES, CANADIAN LICENCE PLATES, DOG TAGS, POST CARDS, COMIC BOOKS, 1ST DAY COVERS, POSTAL STATIONARY & MORE. PLEASE QUOTE YOUR ASKING PRICE OR SHIP FOR OUR OFFERS.

"SEND FOR YOUR "FREE" MAIL BID CATALOGUE  
ON THE ABOVE AND MORE"

JOHN HNATIUK  
P.O. BOX 4944  
VANCOUVER, B.C.  
CANADA V6B 4A6  
PHONE (604) 596-6303  
FAX (604) 596-6343

(exp. #10/96)

## O'HARRA BUS LINES



We offered these in our transportation token and gambling chip mail bid. There were no bidders for the single pieces. We will offer these as follows: Complete page of 5 - \$100; single piece - \$25; single piece lightly creased - \$20. The line in the illustration above shows the approximate location and length of the crease. Include \$3 for postage and insurance.

Alaskan Token Collector & Polar Numismatist, published 10 times per year, is a publication of Alaska Rare Coin s. All articles remain the property of the authors and may not be reprinted without their consent.

Editor - Dick Hanscom  
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Scandinavian Correspondent - Jorgen Sornod  
Subscription Rates:

US & Canada	\$10 per year
Canada	\$12 per year
Elsewhere	\$25 per year.

# ROLL BROTHERS, CONT.

IS  
IC

GEORGE ROLL  
GENERAL MERCHANDISE

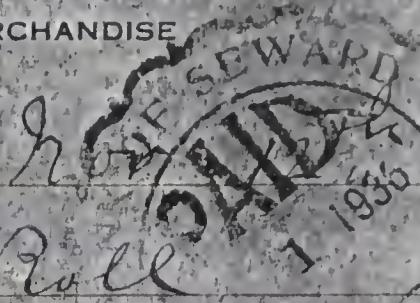
HOPE, ALASKA

PAY TO  
THE ORDER OF

George Roll

Eighteen 60/100

To BANK OF SEWARD,  
SEWARD, ALASKA



No.

\$1860

DOLLARS

In Concord City

HOPE: George Roll, 1916, issued on the Bank of Seward, black on green paper.

Ferdinand Roll Sitka, Alaska

Seattle, Wash. March 7 1905 1.08-

THE Puget Sound National Bank of Seattle.

PAY TO THE ORDER OF

Schubacher Hardware Co. - \$56 00/100

Fifty Six Dollars -

Dollars

\$56 00/100 Ferdinand Roll

SITKA: Ferdinand Roll, 1905, issued on the Puget Sound National Bank of Seattle, black on green.

Ferdinand Roll Sitka, Alaska  
SEATTLE, WASH.

Aug. 11 1910

No. 40

Dexter Horton & Co. Bankers.

SEATTLE, WASH.

PAY TO

Schubacher Hardware Co.

OR ORDER

\$50 65/100

DOLLARS.

Fifty Six Dollars -

\$50 65/100 Ferdinand Roll

SITKA: Ferdinand Roll, 1910, issued on Dexter Horton & Co. Bankers of Seattle, black on tan security paper.

# ROLL BROTHERS, CONT.



SITKA: Ferdinand Roll, 1928, issued on the B.M. Behrends Bank of Juneau, black on tan and brown.

After the partnership dissolved, Ferdinand retained the Sitka store on the waterfront on Lincoln St. Ferdinand is present in all the Gazetteers checked (as Fred in 1901 and 1902). He is also noted as the Vice President of the Sitka Chamber of Commerce in 1909-10, and as Vice President of the Sitka Wharf & Power Co. Coupon books made by Allison Improved Credit Coupon Check were also used by Ferdinand Roll in Sitka. The chits were denominated 5, 10, 25 and 50 cents, and signed Roll on the back. All chits that we have seen are from the book number 77.

In comparing the signature on the back of the chits to those on the checks, I was concerned that it might not be the same. I think that any differences can be attributed to having to sign a book of chits in a short period of time, hurrying each signature. Ferdinand Roll's signature does change over time as can be seen on the checks, but the slant or angle at which it is written remains the same.

While Sitka prospered, Hope declined. Founded in 1896, Hope is now a quiet little village on Turnagain Arm, and a favorite site for vacation homes.

Our thanks to Loren Stephens of Juneau for providing most of the information contained in this article.



5 Cents, light blue on pale blue.



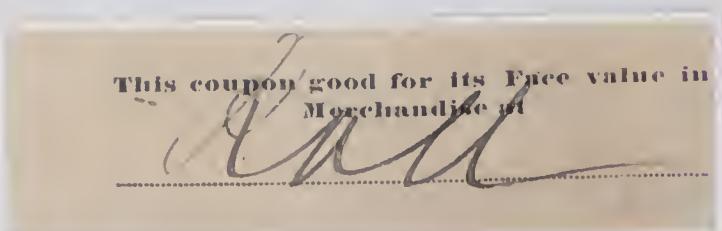
10 Cents, dark blue on tan.



25 Cents, dark blue on lighter tan.



50 Cents, light blue on tan.



Roll signature on the back of the coupons.

# PRICES REALIZED

Prices realized for our April 25th Mail bid..

Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid
1	568.70*	36	15.00
2	18.70*	37	10.00
3	10.00	38	10.00
4	31.90*	39	19.80*
5	22.00*	40	33.00*
6	10.00	41	37.50
7	12.10*	42	37.50
8	44.00*	43	19.80*
9	11.00*	44	7.00
10	11.00*	45	128.70*
11	10.00	46	84.70*
12	11.00	47	55.00
13	22.00*	48	27.50*
14	11.00*	49	27.50*
15	4.00	50	4.00
16	11.00*	51	17.00
17	12.65*	52	16.50*
18	10.00	53	27.50*
19	15.00	54	16.50*
20	15.00	55	16.50*
21	8.00	56	22.00
22	5.00	57	14.85*
23	5.00	58	22.00*
24	44.00*	59	23.10*
25	44.00*	60	22.00*
26	22.00*	61	11.00*
27	27.50*	62	10.00
28	26.00	63	10.00
29	33.00*	64	10.00
30	11.00*	65	45.10*
31	11.00*	66	11.00*
32	5.00	67	121.00*
33	8.03	68	36.30*
34	8.00	69	49.50*
35	10.00	70	88.00*

\* = Bid reduced.

Maximum bids were reduced a total of \$955.60 in this sale.

Our thanks to all who participated in this sale. Our next large auction will be October. This auction will have scarce and rare tokens, primarily R-8s. While the caliber of material cannot match our March auction, it will be another outstanding offering. If there are tokens you would like to see offered in our October auction, please let us know. They may be present in this collection.

Perhaps we will do a small token mail bid in September or R7s and some more common R8s. You may "nominate" R7s for this mail bid.

# FOR SALE THIS MONTH

Continued from page 38.



**YUKON RIVER STERNWHEELERS:** Issued a few years ago by Ann Doyle Studios in Whitehorse, minted at the Alaska Mint. Only one available. \$75.00



**PORTAGE, AK:** Portage Glacier Lodge, Good for one Ice Worm Cocktail. Set of silver and brass (#11). If my memory is correct, only 20 or so were made in silver. First we have had in years, purchased back from a local customer. \$75.00

## RESEARCH SERVICE

We have access to an index to the Gazeteers from 1901, 1902, 1903, 1905, 1907-08, 1909-10 and 1911-12. We can look up individual names relatively easily. If you have a token with two or more names that you think might be Alaskan, we would be willing to look these up for you. No single name or business names at this time. Charge for this service is \$1, a good rubbing or photocopy of the tokens, and an SASE. Do not send the tokens. If matched to names in the Gazeteer index, they would be presented in "For the Record." Photocopies provided if we match the two names in the same place at the same time. Limit would be 5 tokens for \$1 per person

This will require a trip to the library, and will be done as time permits.

## WANT LIST SERVICE:

We will once again service limited want lists as we did previously. Limit of 10 pieces, no R7 or R8 tokens. A set of three tokens counts as three pieces, not one.

# FOR SALE THIS MONTH!



**NORTHWEST TERRITORIAL MINT:** One ounce gold medal commemorating the U.S. Bicentennial. Referred to locally as the Carl Parker medal, the mountain is reported to be Money Knob by Livengood. With gold below \$380 we will sell for

**\$400.00**



**KLONDIKE GOLD RUSH CENTENNIAL:** We reported these last month as being available in Whitehorse at \$89.95 Canadian. These are a product of the Alaska Mint, with a suggested retail in Alaska of \$35. We will sell for

**\$32.00**



**ALASKA 25TH ANNIVERSARY:** These medals were sold in sets of two identical pieces for \$100. We have two (a broken set) in stock for

**\$25.00 each.**



**VITUS BERING:** Celebrating the 250th anniversary of Bering's discovery of Alaska, 1991. Issued at \$35, our special price was \$18, blowing them out at

**\$12.00**

**UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA:** 75th Anniversary. We had these made for the Alumni Association, but have not had any to offer. Only 300 were struck (#1-200 and 1901-2000).

**\$30.00**



**ALASKA GOLD RUSH CENTENNIAL:** By the Alaska Mint, showing assayer weighing gold with gold flake on scale. Suggested retail, \$35, our price \$32.00



**ALASKA RAILROAD, 1997:** Alaska mint product, showing engine with snow blower. Suggested retail is \$30, our price

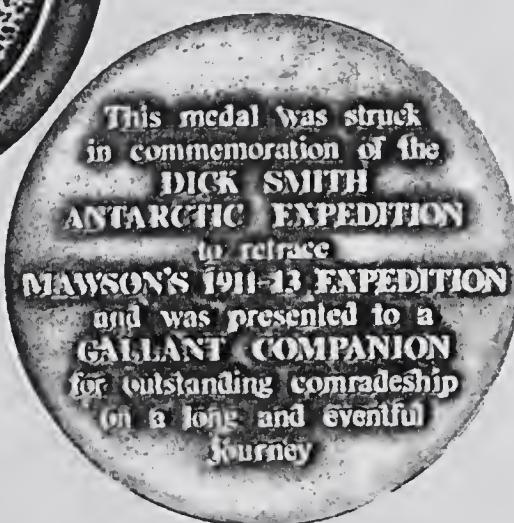
**\$27.00**



**SERUM RUN RELAY RACE, 1996:** Based on the original serum run from Nenana to Nome. Only two available.

**\$45.00**

# FOR THE RECORD



**ANTARCTICA:** Presentation medal for the Dick Smith Antarctic Expedition. Recently offered in an Australian auction. Silver plated copper, 50mm, cast(?) (submitted by Bob Lyall).



**ANDREE EXPEDITION:** Memorial medal issued 1930, bronze, 56mm. Andree's expedition in 1897 was lost for 33 years, their bodies found in 1930. This medal has the portraits of Andree, Stindberg and Fraenkel, and commemorates the return of their bodies to Sweden. This medal is lot number 443 in the May 16 public auction of Presidential Coin & Antique Co., Inc., 6550-I Little River Turnpike, Alexandria, VA 22312 (phone 703-354-5454).



**FAIRBANKS:** Horseshoe Cigar Store encased cent. It seems that we have seen this before, but can find no record of it (submitted by Alan Weinberg).



**SKAGWAY:** Days of '98, Kellers/Ray & Linda/Calver. Black on wood.



**SOLDOTNA:** Elks Lodge 2706, Charter Issue, River of Kings. Brass, 34mm.



**WASILLA:** Wasilla Cocktail Lounge, good for 75¢ in trade. Black on wood.

**WANTED:** MEDALLIC ART AND ANYTHING ALASKAN/CANADIAN HAVING TO DO WITH DOG SLED RACING. ALSO WANTED OLDER SILVER AND BRONZE ART BARS, ROUNDS, FRANKLIN MINT AND NEON BEER SIGNS. SASE GETS 22 PAGE LIST OF TRADES. AL FISHER, BOX 20565, OAKLAND, CA 94620. TEL. 510-530-8089. (ext #1097)

## “ALASKAN” MILITARY TOKEN ATTRIBUTIONS UPDATE AND COMMENTARY

BY  
RONALD J. BENICE



There are many military tokens that contain numbers and letters identifying military organizations but no place name. Some identify specialized units that existed only in one place, like the 719th A.C.W. Squadron in Sparrevohn; others refer to units that were stationed in dozens of places over more than a century of existence, like the 3rd Infantry. Without convincing eyewitness accounts or precise dates of manufacture, the latter are virtually impossible to attribute. Sometimes educated guesses can be made. And sometimes wishful thinking...

There are a number of tokens that repeatedly show up in catalogues, auctions and price lists attributed to Alaska, usually Fort William H. Seward or Chilkoot Barracks, that I believe do not belong to Alaska. These attributions persist despite notes in my book, short articles, letters and different attributions in military references. In this article, I'd like to present cases against some of the frequent offenders.

One of the most common is “83d RR SOU.” This was an Army Security Agency unit, the 83d Radio Research Special Operations Unit. According to a letter I received from the Chief of Historical Services for the Army, this unit spent its entire life, 15 May 1962 to 30 June 1971, in Thailand. They had nothing to do with building or operating the Alaska Railroad.

Other common tokens are those from A and B Co.’s Canteen, 3rd U.S. Infantry. This unit’s history goes back over 150 years. They were based in many places in the U.S. and abroad. The attribution to Ft. William H. Seward in 1904 comes from a researcher who claimed this was the only place A and B were ever together. I located the document (“History of the Third Regiment, United States Infantry”) that purportedly supported this claim. The researcher mis-understood the listings. Except during travel or construction, these companies were together at the same military installations for the past 100 years!

They were briefly in Alaska. They arrived, together with Headquarters, B and C Company, at Camp Skagway on July 9, 1904 where they remained awaiting the completion of Ft. William H. Seward. On July 28, B Company moved to the new post. A Company moved in on October 5. The others moved in September. All 3rd Infantry units left Ft. William H. Seward on July 12, 1906. Each company averaged 35 to 40 men. Was there a separate canteen for the small A and B Company contingent, excluding Headquarters, B and C Company at the same post, and in Alaska for only a year and a half? A and B Companies spent the next three years at Ft. Lawton and Ft. Wright, Washington, then three years in the Philippines, then four at Camp Eagle Pass, Texas, then 20 years at Ft. Snelling, Minnesota, etc. Interestingly, Cunningham’s military token book lists other 3rd Infantry maverick tokens as Ft. Snelling or Ft. George Wright, Washington.

(continued on page 42)

# EDITORIAL

Our thanks to Ron Benice for the information on the attribution of Military tokens. Cataloguers work hard to be accurate, but they are only as good as the information they can find, or that is provided. Over the years, we have become more careful about claiming Alaska as the location for maverick tokens.

This month, we are offering three pages of non-Alaskan tokens in a mail bid sale. If you collect only Alaskan tokens, then there will be nothing in this sale for you, and we will wish our readers in the northwest happy bidding!

We found some information on the O'Harra Bus Lines that you may find interesting. Please note that the pieces we offer are the only ones available on this company. They are very scarce, with only two examples not from this book of tickets known to us.

Baseball is upon us. I am again president of the adult league, playing in that league, and coaching a Senior Little League team. All this adds up a month off from the newsletter in July!

## BUYING - WANTED FOR RESEARCH & RECORDING

CANADIAN & U.S.A. CHAUFFEURS BADGES AND LICENCES, DR. LICENCES, BADGES, PAPER DRIVERS LICENCES, PERMITS, MOTOR VEHICLE & INSPECTION BADGES AND PATCHES, DRIVERS MANUALS & RELATED ITEMS, TAXI & BUS DRIVERS BADGES, LIMOUSINE AND TRANSIT. D.A.V. - WAR AMPS & T.B. VETS KEY TAGS. B.C. ELECTRIC AND OTHER TRANSPORTATION, FIRE ARMS, WARDENS, FORESTRY.

### ALSO WANTED - YUKON -ALASKA-N.W.T.

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(exp. #10/96)

# FEEDBACK

Re: Roll Brothers - Another source of information besides the Alaska gazetteers are the business directories published by Dun and/or Bradstreet. The Roll Brothers first appear in 1899 with general stores in both Sitka and Hope City, with the former designated as the main location. They continue in both places each year through the 1904 directory. In 1905 and subsequent years, George is shown operating a general store in Hope and Ferdinand is shown operating a general store in Sitka. George's listing vanishes in 1942; Ferdinand's in 1947 or 1948. Neither are present in Tewkesbury's 1947 business directory.

Re: Research Service - For any token that Dick is able to attribute, I will, as a courtesy, check the business directories for the other years to get more precision on the start and end dates so this information can be include in "For the Record."

-Ronald J. Benice

Our thanks to Ron for this information and offer of assistance. We will forward information on possible attributions to him.

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## ATTRIBUTIONS, Cont.

Another favorite is the 7th Infantry: E, F and NCO Open Mess tokens. The story is similar here -- a short Alaskan presence overshadowed by longer stays elsewhere, with no proof of where the tokens were used. According to "The U.S. Army in Alaska" Companies E and F arrived at Fort Gibbon on July 26, 1899 and left during the summer of 1902. Although Curto attributed the Company E Pool tokens to Alaska, Cunningham lists them as Vancouver Barracks, Washington and the Co. F. tokens as Fort Logan, Colorado, along with matching tokens from Companies C and D. He attributes the NCO Open Mess tokens to Korea.

Based on input from collectors, Cunningham attributes the 2½ cent tokens from Company F 22 Infantry to Ft. William H. Seward. However, according to "U.S. Army in Alaska," only C and D companies served any where in Alaska. Moreover, the matching Company D token is attributed to Benicia Barracks, California.

He also lists Company K, 30th Infantry tokens as Ft. William H. Seward. The Army reference says only A and D were in Alaska. He lists 30th Infantry Company L tokens as Presidio in San Francisco, California and Company C as Fort Crook, Nebraska.

As the cartoonist said in "Punch" 150 years ago, "You pays your money and you takes your choice."

## O'HARRA BUS LINES

(From "Tewkesbury's Who's Who in Alaska and Alaska Business Index," 1947).

**O'Harra, Kenneth Edgar**, Bus line operator. Born Columbus, O., July 11, 1910; son of Charles Millard and Ethel (Seeds) O'Harra. Ed.: grad. O. State U., 1935; short course, U. of Alaska, 1939. Married Audrey Pearl Richardson, May 29, 1942; 1 son - Michael Jay. Transported automobiles from Detroit to West Coast upon graduation in 1935; hauled garbage in Fairbanks, 1937, later establishing bus line between Fairbanks and Livengood; purchased bus line between Anchorage and Palmer, 1940; now, pres. O'Harra Bus Lines, Inc., operates 36 buses carrying passengers in relays from Anchorage to Santa Claus Lodge, to Tok Junction, Fairbanks, Kuskanaw and Whitehorse, Y.T., and has recently established through service from Fairbanks to Haines; also operates lodges along routes traveled. With U.S. Army at Ft. Richardson, Alaska as pvt., pfc., and cpl., Nov. 1942-Sept. 1945. Ent. Alaska 1937. Mem. Anchorage C. of C., V.F.W. Protestant. Home: O'Harra 5th Ave. Apts., Anchorage. (Box 1657) Office: O'Harra Bus Lines Depot, 4th and C St., Anchorage."

O'HARRA BUS LINES  
One Fare

## O'HARRA BUS LINES



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**O'Harra Bus Lines**  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

Ken O'Harra was still in Fairbanks when I arrived in 1974. He left about 1980. We assumed that the O'Harra Bus Lines, One Fare ticket was for Fairbanks, but it appears that it could also have been for the Anchorage area. The booklet cover did indicate that it was used in Fairbanks.

O'Harra Bus Lines Tickets—tokens are still available as per the last issue of the newsletter: page of 5 - \$100; single piece - \$25; single piece, lightly creased - \$20. Include \$3 for postage and insurance.

# RUSSIAN COMMEMORATIVES

In the March issue, we ran a short item about a Russian commemorative coin for the icebreaker Ermak and the 300 anniversary of the Russian navy. This should have been the Russian fleet, as further coins have been issued, with non-military vessels.

A set of six circulation metal coins has been issued in denominations of 1, 5, 10, 20, 50 and 100 Roubles, featuring, respectively a fishing trawler, sailing ship Tovarich, cargo ship, scientific research ship, submarine and the atomic icebreaker "Arctic."



These coins are dated 1996 and are available only in a mint set from the St. Petersburg mint. It is not known if these types will be released to circulation.

Another series of two gold coins was recently released, noting the exploration of the Russian Arctic.



Fridtjof Nansen and "Fram" are honored on the 50 Roubles, containing  $\frac{1}{4}$  ounce of gold. Nansen set out in 1893 to reach the north pole. He failed at this, but his record of the farthest north in a surface vessel still stands to this day. Nansen's voyage lasted three years, and he received a hero's welcome upon his return. Following Norway's independence from Sweden in 1905, he became a respected statesman.



The icebreaker "Krassin" is featured on the gold  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce 100 Roubles coin. The design shows the ship, as well as campers on the ice.

Both gold coins were minted at the St. Petersburg mint in proof. There is the possibility that there will be further issues in this series.

# ISLE OF MAN



The Isle of Man has issued two arctic related commemoratives. Both coins carry the 1 crown (25 Pence) denomination.

The first notes the millennium of the voyage of Leif Eiricksson (Leif Ericson) from Greenland to eastern Canada and the United States. It features a portrait of Eiriksson and a Viking long boat.

The second coin honors Fridtjof Nansen, and has a portrait of Nansen and the "Fram."

Cupro-nickel (38.6mm) examples of both coins will be available at commercial banks in the Isle of Man. Proof versions will be struck in sterling silver, with a mintage of 30,000. The coins will also be struck in gold with 2,500 proofs struck in 30mm,  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce gold and 5,000 22mm  $\frac{1}{5}$  ounce gold.



From the Presidential Coins & Antiques sale of 11/16/96, described "City of Boston, Admiral Byrd Tribute medal, 1930. 67.7 x 89.3mm. Bronze. Unsigned. (Robbins Co.). About Uncirculated." Attractive medal probably given to those attending a banquet to honor Byrd.

# ID-IN-MO-MT-ND-OR-PA-SD-WA-WY

Alaska Rare Coins, P.O. Box 72832, Fairbanks, Alaska 99707 phone 907-452-6461 CLOSING DATE: JUNE 25.

The following tokens and groups of tokens are offered to the highest bidder. Minimum bid is \$1, otherwise there are no reserve bids. Bids reduced to 10% over second highest bid, however bids under \$10 will not be reduced, and no bid will be reduced by more than 50%. Otherwise, standard TACT rules apply. Please bid by lot number. Attributions are by the consignor. ( ) indicates that town name is not on the token. Otherwise, at least the town name is present, and in most cases the state also. **Closing date: June 25, 1997.**

## IDAHO

- 001 **Boise**, Bouquet Cigar Store, 5¢ I/T, silvered brass, 21mm.
- 002 **Boise**, Bouquet Cigar Store, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm, different dies from above.
- 004 **Bonners Ferry**, Club Cigar Store, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm with key hole cut out.
- 005 **Bonners Ferry**, Gilt Top, ??? & Anderson, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21 mm with key hole cut out.
- 006 **Bonners Ferry**, Bert Kendrick, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm with key hole cut out.
- 007 **Bonners Ferry**, New Deal, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm with triangle cut out.
- 008 **Bonners Ferry**, Shamrock Cigar Store, 5¢ I/T, 21mm with heart cut out. Worn.
- 009 **Burke**, De Silvia's, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm w/8mm ctr. hole.
- 010 **Coeur D'Alene**, Interstate Mercantile Co., 5¢ I/T, aluminum 21mm.
- 011 **Elk River**, Ed. Allen, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.
- 012 **Elk River**, Pastime, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.
- 013 **Gooding**, Metropolitan Club, C.J.S., 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm, with 5mm center hole.
- 014 **Kellogg**, J. Jones, 5¢, CN or WM, 21mm, worn.
- 015 **Moscow**, Board of Trade, 5¢, CN or WM, 21mm, 4mm center hole.
- 016 **Moscow**, Corner Club, 25¢ I/T, alum., 28mm
- 017 **Moscow**, Shorty's Place, two different, no denomination, 21mm brass. One with star reverse, the other with 4 pointed design. A third brass, 28mm, with reverse design similar to second. A total of 3 pieces.
- 018 **Moscow**, The Pastime, two different 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm. One is worn.
- 019 **Moscow**, Tom's Smoke House, 5¢ I/T, 21mm, brass.
- 020 **Moscow**, Wright's Fountain, 25 and 50¢ I/T, aluminum, 27mm and 30mm, respectively. Two pieces.
- 021 **Plummer & Worley**, Jaeger, set of 4; 5, 10 and 50¢ and \$1.00 I/T. All brass, various sizes.
- 022 **St. Maries**, C. & M. Hotel, 5¢ I/T, brass, 24mm
- 023 **Soda Springs**, Al's Place, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.
- 024 **Troy**, W.M. Duthie, \$5 I/T, brass, 21mm.
- 025 **Wallace**, Banquet (swastika), 6½¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.
- 026 **Wallace**, Williams & Fauhle, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.
- 027 **Washington, Indiana**, Cabel & Kauffman Merc. Co., set of 4, 5, 10, 25 and 50¢ I/T, all 8-scalloped aluminum, different sizes.
- 028 **Hysham, Montana**, Lone Star Bar, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm, star center hole.
- 029 **Duenweg, Missouri**, Duenweg State Bank, Picker tokens? Set of 3, One Quart, One Tray, One Crate. All alum, 23, 28, and 35mm

## NORTH DAKOTA

- 030 **Lansford**, Sawyer's Store, 10¢ I/T, alum., 22mm.
- 031 **Makoti**, A.P. Matson, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.
- 032 **Mandan**, Havana Club, \$5 I/T, brass, oct. 35mm.
- 033 **Northwood**, Northwood Creamery, set of two uniface, no denomination, alum., 22 and 28mm.
- 034 **Oakes**, Oakes Bridge Club, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.
- 035 **Sherwood**, Sherwood Co-operative Store Co., set of 2; 25 and 50¢ I/M, alum., 26 and 29mm respectively.
- 036 **White Earth**, Harry S. Berg, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.

## OREGON

- 037 **Amity**, D.L. Smith's Confectionery, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.
- 038 **Ashland**, H. Lemke, For Good Groceries, 25¢ I/T, alum. scal. 32mm, pierce at 6:00 obverse (tiny).
- 039 **Ashland**, W.H. Tate, Candy, Cigars & Tobacco, 5¢ I/T, aluminum, oct. 30mm.
- 040 **Astoria**, Guardsman's Scrip-1934, 10¢. Two specimens, one stamped cancelled.
- 041 **Astoria**, Kennell & Grass, 50¢ I/T, alum., 30mm.
- 042 **Astoria**, The Richmond, Kenney Bros. Prop., "10." Alum. 24mm.
- 043 **Astoria**, The Smoke Shop, 25¢ I/T, brass, 24mm.
- 044 **Athena**, Wm. Hardin, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm, 8mm ctr. hole.

\*\*\*\*\*



- 045 **Baker City**, Shamrock Saloon, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.
- \*\*\*\*\*
- 046 **Brooks**, W. Howard Ramp, General MDSE. Set of 6; 5, 10, 25, 50, 1.00 and 5.00 (no ¢ or \$ indicated). All aluminum except the 5.00, which is brass. Various sizes.
- 047 **The Dalles**, Columbia Hotel, J.M. Toomey, 5¢ I/T, alum. 25mm.
- 048 **Klamath Falls**, Rex Billiards, "This check has no value," aluminum, 24mm with triangle cut out.
- 049 **Monmouth**, Frank Fisher's Book Store, 5¢ I/T, alum. 25mm.
- 050 **Pendleton**, Bob's Cigar Store, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm with hexagonal center hole.
- 051 **Portland**, Blazier's Concert, Beer and Pool Hall, 248 Burnside St. 25 I/T, aluminum, 34mm.
- 052 **Portland**, Hesse (Hesse twice to make a cross), 28 Third Street, bi-facial. Brass, 21mm.
- 053 **Tillamook**, Smarts Confectionery, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm, with heart center hole.

054 **Conway, Pennsylvania**, Courtesy Castle, 5¢ Bottle Check, aluminum, 20mm.

055 **Tyndall, South Dakota**, Rivin Bros. Stores, Genl. Mdse., set of 5: 5, 10, 25, and 50¢ and \$1.00 I/M. All brass, various sizes.

**WASHINGTON**

056 **Aberdeen**, Alaska Cigar Store, 418 E. Heron St., 25¢ I/T, aluminum, 28mm.

057 **(Almira)**, Almira Club Tavern 25 CTS I/T Only, brass, 22 mm, and 50 Cents I/T, brass, 30mm. Two pieces.

058 **(Almira)**, Almira Tavern, W. A. Densow, 25 and 50¢ I/T, 27mm brass and 28mm aluminum respectively. 2 pcs.

059 **(Almira)**, Almira Club, B.C. O'Neil, 5 and 25¢ I/T, red fiber, 21 and 24mm respectively. Two pieces.

060 **Buckley**, Hackman's Sport Club, 5¢ I/T, brass, 22mm.

061 **Cashmere**, The Club, S.H. Miller, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.

062 **Colfax**, Ace of Clubs, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm, clover cut out.

063 **Colfax**, Berry's City Club, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.

064 **(Colfax)**, Colfax Bar, 5¢ I/T, 21mm.

065 **Colfax**, Headquarters Cigar Store, set of 3 rectangular cardboard tokens all with black printing; 5¢ I/T red, 25¢ I/T green, 50¢ I/T yellow. All rubberstamped on the back "Headquarters Cigar Store, Colfax, Wash." Some creasing. Three pieces.

066 **Colfax**, Hotel Colfax, M.J. Maloney, 6 1/4¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.

067 **Colfax**, Mike's Cigar Store, Tobacco, Candies, 5¢ I/T, 21 mm. Two different types.

068 **Colfax**, Miller Cigar Store, 12 1/2¢ I/T, brass, 24mm.

069 **Colville**, Lee & Townsend, 6 1/4¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.

070 **Connell**, The Tavern, 10¢ I/T, brass, 25mm.

071 **Dayton**, P.S. Burdett, One Quarter I/T, brass, 24mm.

072 **Dayton**, P.S. Burdett, 25¢ I/T, aluminum, 24mm.

073 **Dayton**, Ted Watts, 25¢ I/T, brass, 23mm.

074 **East Stanwood**, Oscar Edlund, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.

075 **Ellensburg**, The Pastime, no denom., brass, 21mm with 8mm center hole. Worn but legible.

076 **Glenwood**, Consolidated Timber Co., 10¢ I/M, Master Metal Scrip, Ingle-Schierloh Co. Brass? WM? dark. "C" Cut out.

077 **Grand Coulee**, Thompson & Long Smoke Shop, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm

078 **Harrington**, The Magnet, 50¢ I/T, black on blue cardboard, creased.

079 **Harrington**, The Magnet (horseshoe shaped magnet and plate), 25¢ I/T, CN or WM, 24mm.

080 **Harrington**, The Smokehouse, R.T. Sullivan, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.

A80 **Hillyard**, S & J, 5110 No. Market, 5¢ I/T, brass, 22mm.

081 **Kalotus**, G.R. Gilleland, 25¢ I/T, brass, 24mm.

082 **Kelso**, H&H, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm, 8mm center hole, surfaces rough.

083 **Kelso**, Secor & Barlow, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.

084 **Longview**, St. Helens Inn, set of 3; 5¢ I/T brass, square, 30mm; 10¢ I/T brass, octagonal, 26mm; 25¢ I/T, brass, 24mm. Total of three pieces.

085 **Mt. Vernon**, Les Fox, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm

086 **Mt. Vernon**, W.H. Robinson Billiards, 5¢ I/T, aluminum, 24mm, rough surfaces, dig on reverse.

087 **Newport**, Chas. Oberg, 5¢ I/T brass 21mm, 5¢ I/T alum., 24mm, 25¢ I/T brass 24mm, 25¢ I/T alum. 31mm. A total

of 4 pieces.

088 **Oakville**, Royal, 5¢ I/T aluminum, 25mm.

089 **(Odessa)**, J.B. O'Dell's Place, 5¢ I/T alum. 18mm; Dad O'Dell's Place (O' scraped off), 25¢ I/T, alum. 27mm. A total of 2 pieces.

090 **Omak**, Banker's Place, 25¢ Rummy Check, brs., 31mm.

091 **Othello**, The Brunswick, 5¢ I/T, alum, oct. 28mm.

092 **Palouse**, Chuck's Place, 10¢ I/T, brass, 21mm

093 **Palouse**, The Club Cigar Store, LD Harper, 5¢ I/T, alum 21mm

\*\*\*\*\*



094 **Pc Ell**, Columbia Saloon, M.D., 5¢ I/T at Bar, brass, 21mm.

\*\*\*\*\*

095 **Reardan**, The Smoke House, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm. Center, obverse worn off.

096 **Reardan**, The Smoke House, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm. Different from the above token.

097 **Rosalia**, Shamrock Tavern, 5¢ I/T brass, 21mm.

098 **(Seattle)**, Hollywood Inc., 1609 Westlake Ave., 10¢ on return of bottle, alum. octagonal, 29mm

099 **Seattle**, Howard's Inc., 1522 6th Ave., 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.

\*\*\*\*\*



100 **Seattle**, John W. Orth, 110 James St., Souvenir for (5 horse bits), three horse heads. Silver colored (plated?), 37mm. Five bits would be 62 1/2 cents! Great piece!!!

\*\*\*\*\*

101 **Seattle**, Ben Paris, 5¢, brass, 19mm with "P" cut out. Two varieties.

102 **Seattle**, Seattle School District No. 1, Use for School Business Only. Brass, 21mm

103 **Seattle**, Cafe Edelweiss (flower), E.G. DeRy, Proprietor, Souvenir, 1904. Aluminum, 30mm, scratches in field.

104 **Seattle**, Viking Tavern, 1622 8th Ave., 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.

105 **Seattle**, Workmen's Place, 206 Occidental Ave., 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm, square hole with notches.

106 **Snohomish**, Martin's Place, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm. Two different types. Two pieces.

107 **Spokane**, A. Anderson, 6 1/4¢ I/T, brass, 21mm, centers rubbed out.

108 **Spokane**, Anderson's Place, 316 Main Ave. 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.

109 **Spokane**, Atlas Bar, 327 W. Trent, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm, crescent cut out.

110 **(Spokane)**, Barney's Tavern, 1914 N. Monroe, 10¢ I/T, brass, 25mm.

111 **Spokane**, Bear Bar, 205 Brown St., 10¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.  
 112 **(Spokane)**, Blue Lantern, 10¢ I/T, brass, 25mm.  
 113 **Spokane**, W.H. Brower, \$1.00 I/T, alum., 37mm, 12 scal.  
 114 **(Spokane)**, Bubble Inn, 1422 N. Division, 5¢ I/T, alum.  
 21mm.  
 115 **Spokane**, Callander's Billiard Parlors, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.  
 116 **Spokane**, Cunningham's, 528 S. Cannon, 10¢ I/T, aluminum  
 25mm.  
 117 **(Spokane)**, Dempsey Bar, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.



118 **Spokane**, Donnelly Cigar Store, 6½¢ I/T, CN or WM, 21mm  
 with cigar shaped cut out!!!!  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 119 **Spokane**, Ed's Gun Shop, W 302 Main, no denom. alum.,  
 28mm.  
 120 **Spokane**, Ernie's Dairy, 1 Quart of Milk, brass, 25mm.  
 121 **Spokane**, Fall's View Tavern, 415 N. Monroe, 25¢ I/T, brass  
 25mm.  
 122 **Spokane**, Friendly Tavern, 1230 W. 2nd Ave., 10¢ I/T,  
 brass, 25mm.  
 123 **Spokane**, Happy Hour Tavern, E. 8611 Sprague Ave., 25¢  
 I/T, aluminum, 27mm  
 124 **Spokane**, E.T. Hulme, 210 W. Stevens St., 5¢ I/T, brass,  
 21mm with diamond cut out.



125 **Spokane**, P.M. Jacoy's, 1941 (Grand Coulee Dam), 6½¢  
 I/T. CN or WM, 21mm. Very nice pictorial!  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 126 **Spokane**, Lewis & Bowler, 15 Riverside Ave., 5¢ I/T, brass,  
 24mm with crescent cut out.  
 127 **Spokane**, Lewis and Clark Cafeteria, 5¢ I/T, alum, 21mm.  
 128 **(Spokane)**, Lightner's Pinochle Club, 816 Riverside Ave.,  
 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.  
 129 **Spokane**, Marquis Bar, 401 Trent Ave., 5 and 25¢ I/T, brass  
 21 and 24mm.  
 130 **Spokane**, Al Morse's, 425 W. Main, brass, 22mm, scal. with  
 crescent cut out.  
 131 **Spokane**, Moezy Inn, N 2723 Monroe, 10¢ I/T, brs. 25mm.  
 132 **(Spokane)**, North Wall Dairy, 1 Quart Milk, alum., 21mm.  
 133 **Spokane**, Obde's Tavern, W. 336 Riv., 10¢ I/T, brs. 22mm  
 134 **(Spokane)**, Ohio Bar, 0508 Monroe St., 5¢ I/T at bar, brass,  
 21mm.  
 135 **Spokane**, Sam Orino, 321 W. Trent Ave., 5¢ I/T, brs, 21mm.  
 136 **(Spokane)**, Riverside Pool Hall, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm with  
 8mm center hole.  
 137 **(Spokane)**, Senate, no denomination, 21mm brass with 8mm  
 center hole.  
 138 **(Spokane)**, 3 Aces Tavern, N. 111 Wash. St. 5¢ I/T, brass,  
 20mm.  
 139 **Spokane**, The Turf, 5¢ I/T. Brass, 21mm, "T" cut-out.

140 **Spokane**, Tufty's, N. 1815 Monroe St., 5¢ I/T, aluminum,  
 31mm. A little dirty and scratched.  
 141 **(Spokane)**, Nels Vernstrom Soft Drink Parlor, 266 Riverside  
 Ave., 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm, star center hole.  
 14A **(Spokane)**, Waikiki Dairy, 13¢ I/T, brass, 30mm, heart center  
 hole.  
 142 **Spokane**, Washington Bar, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm  
 143 **Spokane**, Washington Trust Co., 50¢ on \$5 deposit, brass,  
 30mm.  
 144 **Spokane**, Sam Waskull, 329 Trent Ave., 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm  
 145 **Spokane**, L.H. Wolff, 708 Sprague 6½¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.  
 146 **Starbuck**, Jas. S. Fuller, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.  
 147 **Starbuck**, The Tuxedo, C.H. List, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.  
 148 **Sunset**, W.C. Deyoung Confectionery, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.  
 Dirty and lightly corroded.  
 149 **Tacoma**, The Drift, 10¢, aluminum, 21mm, worn but legible.  
 150 **Tekoa**, The Smoke House, 5¢ I/T, brass, 22mm.  
 151 **(Thornton)**, Thornton Cigar Stand, 12½¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.  
 152 **Thornton**, R.O. Willey, Confectionery and Cigars, 5¢ I/T,  
 brass, 21mm.  
 153 **Thornton**, Louise & Frank Willmering Coffee House, 5¢  
 I/T, brass, 21mm.  
 154 **Vancouver**, Zutz Billiards, 5¢ I/T, brass, oct. 28mm.  
 155 **Walla Walla**, K-C Club 766, 50¢ I/M, brass, 31mm.  
 156 **Walla Walla**, Pastime Pool Hall, 217 W. Main, 5¢ I/T,  
 aluminum, 21mm, reverse defaced.  
 157 **Walla Walla**, A. Schwarz, The Fountain, 5¢ I/T, CN, 21mm.  
 158 **Wapato**, M. Hasishima Co., 25¢ and \$1.00 I/T. brass, 25  
 and 35mm respectively. Two pieces.  
 159 **Wenatchee**, The Orondo Billiards, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm,  
 concave square hole not quite centered (to fit lettering).  
 160 **Wenatchee**, Orondo Grocery, \$5 I/T, brass, 20mm.  
 161 **Wenatchee**, Walton's Billiards, 25¢ I/T, brass, 25mm.  
 162 **White Salmon**, Red & White Store, 5, 25, 50¢ and \$1.00  
 I/T. Set of 4 aluminum, various sizes.  
 163 **Yakima**, The Hooverized Grocery, 50¢ I/T, brass, 30mm.

## WYOMING

164 **Gillette**, George McAnany, 5¢ I/T, alum., 21mm.  
 165 **Lamont**, Lamont Grocery, 5¢ I/T, alum., hex. 27mm.  
 166 **Rock River**, Arcade Billiard Room, 12½¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.  
 167 **(Salt Creek)**, Salt Creek Club House, M.R. Co., 5¢ I/T,  
 aluminum, 20mm, bent, beat, but not bad.  
 168 **Sheridan**, Sam B. Musser, 10¢ I/T, brass, 21mm, corroded,  
 dark, cleaning would help. All legible.  
 169 **Sheridan**, Warner & Canfield, 12½¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.  
 170 **Sheridan**, Warner & Canfield, One Drink, brass, 21mm.  
 171 **Sheridan**, The Yellowstone Bar, 12½¢ I/T, brass, 21mm,  
 corroded and dark. Cleaning would help.  
 172 **(Sheridan)**, Sheridan Inn, 5¢ I/T, brass, 21mm.

This mail bid is also appearing in the June issue of TACT. While there is no Alaskan, we wanted to give our subscribers the opportunity to bid. There are some neat non-Alaskan token out there! At least this mail bid may please some of our readers in the northwest

Send bids to: A.R.C., P.O. Box 72832, Fairbanks, AK 99707

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VOLUME XIX, NUMBER 7.

JULY, 1997.



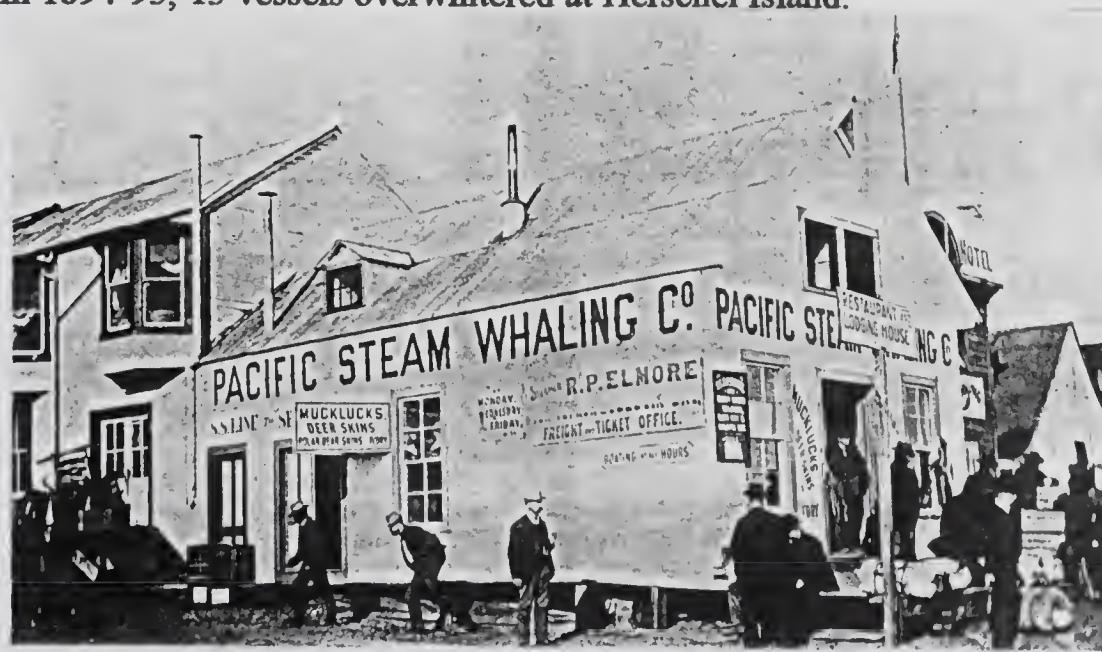
## PACIFIC STEAM WHALING CO.



When a previously unreported token becomes available, that does not give the state or territory name, one must be very careful with attributions. My skepticism was at a peak when I found "Hunters Point" in California and a token by the same maker, but no Hunters Bay in Alaska! There was a Hunter Bay, but it was in southeastern Alaska, and all evidence showed the Pacific Steam Whaling Co. operating only on the north coast of Alaska and the Northwest Territories!

The Pacific Steam Whaling Company started with a capital of \$2 million and five ships: Bowhead, Orca, Narwhal, Balaena and the Mary & Helen. As a well financed company, the PSW Co. was a major player in the whale fishery on the north coast of Alaska in the late 1800s. They controlled the entire process from harvesting to processing the oil and "bone" (the plates of baleen). They established the first shore-based whaling stations on the Alaskan coasts, the first at Point Barrow in 1883. They even owned the Corwin Coal Mine located between Point Hope and Icy Cape to provide their ships with fuel. The Pacific Steam Whaling Company were innovators in the whaling field. The steam powered whalers could operate where sailing vessels could not. Yet there were conditions that the propeller was a liability. Their whaling ships were fitted with propellers that could be withdrawn allowing them to operate as a sailing vessel. These factors gave a great measure of versatility. Needless to say, those still using vessels powered exclusively by wind objected.

In 1890, the PSW Co. sent three ships (Grampus, Nicoline and Mary D. Hume) to Herschel Island (part of Yukon Territory). The demand for the flexible material used in women's corsets had increased considerably, but the harvesting of the oil was not longer economical. They were instructed to take baleen only. The ships spent the winter frozen in at Pauline Cove at Herschel Island. Two of the ships left before the next winter, but the Hume remained to hunt whales in the vicinity of the MacKenzie River delta. In July of 1891, the Hume found whales, and harvested 27, returning to Herschel for a second winter. The following years saw an increasing number of whalers in the area. In 1894-95, 15 vessels overwintered at Herschel Island.



Nome, PSW Co. Restaurant and Lodging House (Seattle Historical Society)

Declining profits prompted the Pacific Steam Whaling Co. to close their shore stations at Point Barrow and Point Hope. They also diversified. By 1901, they are shown in the "Report of the Governor of Alaska" as purchasing business licenses at Orca, Uyak, Nushagak, Chignik, Hunters Bay, Kenai, and Nome as General Merchants. Ron Benice reports that the business directories show the Pacific Steam Whaling Co. operated a cannery at Hunters Bay from 1898 to 1901. It is likely that the other locations, except for Nome were also for canneries.

is lot 150, and is offered in the NWTAMS auction conducted by Mike Patton, P.O. Box 7343, Bonney Lake, WA 98390. Closing date for mail bids is July 9, 1997.

Skepticism leads to excitement. This token

## EDITORIAL

We were not planning on putting out an issue for July. June is generally busy with business and baseball! But when a really desirable token is offered at auction, one that has not been previously reported, we like to let our readers know about it so that they can participate in the mail bid. The Pacific Steam Whaling Co. token offered in the NWTAMS auction conducted by Mike Patton is such a token. We hope that our readers will take the opportunity to bid on the rare and desirable piece of Alaskan history.

If you are interested in whales and whaling, get a copy of "Men and Whales" by Richard Ellis. It was printed in 1991, and may be out of print. Check your library for this one. Great book. This is where most information for the article on the PSW Co. is from.

Oops! We have just been informed that there was no page 43 in last month's newsletter, but rather page 42 printed back to back. A replacement page is included with this issue.

## BUYING - WANTED FOR RESEARCH & RECORDING

**CANADIAN & U.S.A. CHAUFFEURS BADGES AND LICENCES, DR. LICENCES, BADGES, PAPER DRIVERS LICENCES, PERMITS, MOTOR VEHICLE & INSPECTION BADGES AND PATCHES, DRIVERS MANUALS & RELATED ITEMS, TAXI & BUS DRIVERS BADGES, LIMOUSINE AND TRANSIT. D.A.V. - WAR AMPS & T.B. VETS KEY TAGS. B.C. ELECTRIC AND OTHER TRANSPORTATION, FIRE ARMS, WARDENS, FORESTRY.**

### ALSO WANTED - YUKON - ALASKA - N.W.T.

**ALSO WANTED TO BUY ALL LICENCES AND BADGES, PATCHES, TAGS, PLATES - METAL, PAPER, FIBER. URGENT: WE NEED YUKON CHAUFFEURS BADGES. TOP PRICE PAID.**

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**BUYING OR WILL TRADE OUR DUPLICATES, ALONG WITH POLICE BADGES & PATCHES, CANADIAN, U.S. & WORLD COINS, STAMPS, PAPER MONEY, TOKENS, MEDALS & MEDALLIONS, MILITARY BADGES AND PINS, WATCHES, CANADIAN LICENCE PLATES, DOG TAGS, POST CARDS, COMIC BOOKS, 1ST DAY COVERS, POSTAL STATIONARY & MORE PLEASE QUOTE YOUR ASKING PRICE OR SHIP FOR OUR OFFERS.**

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(exp. #10/96)

## ROLL BROTHERS, FEEDBACK

**Seward Weekly Gateway, Oct. 10, 1908:** "A pleasant and happy occasion was the marriage at the Coleman House at 8:30 o'clock last evening of Mr. George Roll of Hope, Alaska and Miss Louise Welge of Denver, Colorado. In the presence of a few invited guests the marriage ceremony was performed by Commissioner Reed. Mr. and Mrs. Roll will make their home in Hope where Mr. Roll has a general merchandise business."

**Seward Weekly Gateway, March 5, 1910:** "George Roll of Hope, who runs a store at that point and also engages in raising garden truck and small fruits as a side issue, has received a handsome silver medal from the officials of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition for his exhibit of vegetables and berries grown on his ground. Mr. Roll thoroughly understands horticulture. Before coming to Alaska he was engaged in gardening and fruit raising on an extensive scale in Texas."

**Seward Gateway, September 13, 1941:** "With 45 years of merchandising at Hope to his credit, George Roll after selling his store and home property remarked that he would have to "start breaking up new ground for my garden next spring" indicating that he did not sell his interest in Hope along with his business.

"The new owner of the Roll store is Fergus Crough, member of the Alaska Railroad construction crew who decided upon making the buy after visiting and inspecting about the back country of Seward. "Doc" Nearhouse will run the store until Mr. Crough gets on the job.

"Mr. and Mrs. Roll have no immediate plans for leaving Hope, and considering remarks dropped about starting a new garden it is gathered that aside from probably visits to the states they will continue to make it their home and headquarters.

"George Roll and his brother were in business in Sitka before coming to Hope in 1896 to open a branch store. Later his brother returned to Sitka, brother George, continuing with the Hope store which in nearly a half century has become a landmark on the Kenai Peninsula."

(submitted by Lee Poleske)

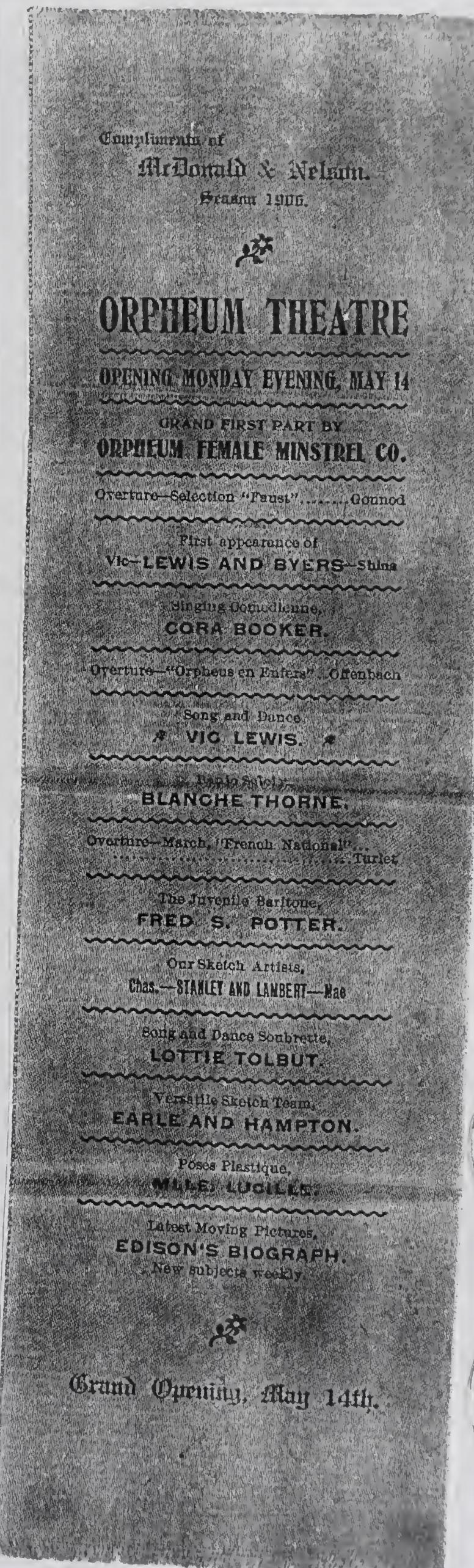
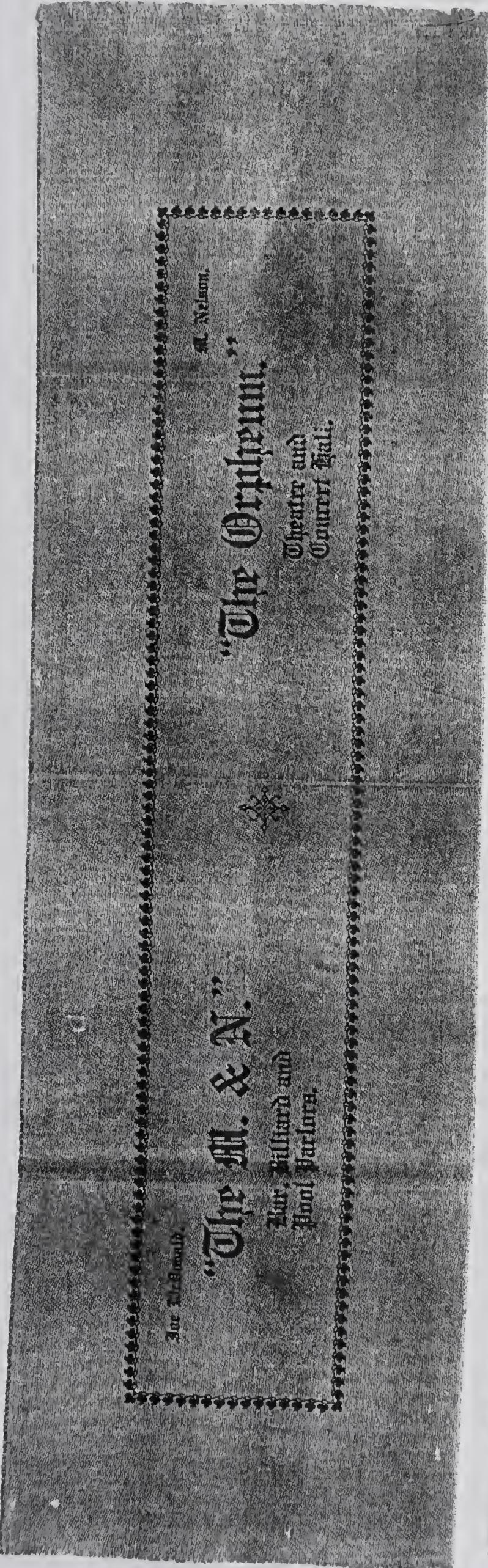
Another source of information besides the Alaska gazetteers are the business directories published by Dun and/or Bradstreet. The Roll Brothers first appear in 1899 with general stores in both Sitka and Hope City, with the former designated as the main location. They continue in both places each year through the 1904 directory. In 1905 and subsequent years, George is shown operating a general store in Hope and Ferdinand is shown operating a general store in Sitka. George's listing vanishes in 1942; Ferdinand's in 1947 or 1948.

(submitted by Ron Benice)

**WANTED: MEDALLIC ART AND ANYTHING ALASKAN/CANADIAN HAVING TO DO WITH DOG SLED RACING. ALSO WANTED OLDER SILVER AND BRONZE ART BARS, ROUNDS, FRANKLIN MINT AND NEON BEER SIGNS. SASE GETS 22 PAGE LIST OF TRADES. AL FISHER, BOX 20565, OAKLAND, CA 94620. TEL. 510-530-8089.**

(exp. #10/97)

# DAWSON PLAYBILL/ADVERTISING RIBBON



The ribbon to the left is black on slate green. It advertises the opening of the Orpheum Theatre on May 14, 1906, owned by McDonald and Nelson of the M&N.

Both businesses had tokens, but the token for the Orpheum Concert Hall may predate this ribbon.

# NEW DTG CHIPS

Diamond Tooth Gerties in Dawson has issued a new \$2.50 gambling chip has been reported commemorating the Dawson Nuggets challenge to the Stanley Cup in 1905.

The obverse design appears to be similar to the last \$2.50 chip. The reverse features two hockey players and the Stanley Cup.



# FOR THE RECORD



**FAIRBANKS:** Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, Midnight Sun Run/Subway, One Dollar off. Blue obv./ blue-green reverse on wood.



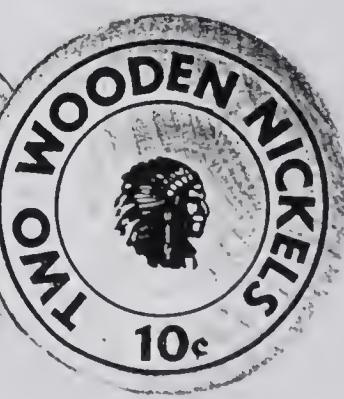
**FAIRBANKS:** Farthest North Shrine Club, Annual Luau, good for one drink, 1975. Red on wood.



**FAIRBANKS:** Gold Pan Trading Post, \$1.00 on any purchase. Black on wood.



**HOMER:** Big George's Down East Saloon, value \$2.25. Black on green plastic, 39mm.



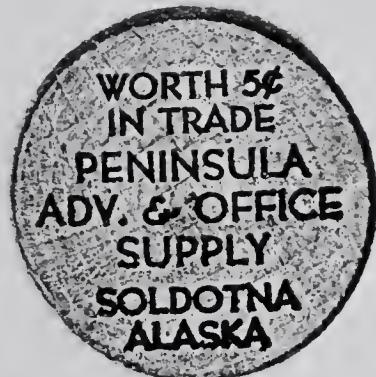
**HOMER:** Down East Saloon, \$2.50 in trade. White on green plastic, 39mm.

**KENAI PENINSULA:** Rainbow or Corea Bar, one blast. Two types; One wooden Dickel and Two wood nickels. Black on wood.

# FOR THE RECORD, cont.



SITKA: Moose, State convention, 1975. Sterling silver, 40 mm (submitted by Kurtis Hawk).



SOLDOTNA: Peninsula Adv. & Office Supply, wooden nickel. Black on wood.



(SOLDOTNA): Git 'N' Go, 2¢ off each gallon. Black on wood.

## THIS MONTH'S OFFERINGS

This month we are offering an assortment of items mostly from the Kenai Peninsula. You may want to phone in your order (907-452-6461) as many are only one piece in stock. Many items are in this month's "For the Record" (noted by FTR). Please refer to that section for fuller description. Please include \$3 for postage and handling per order.

### ANCHORAGE

001	Denali Bar, Dave & Gladys, 70¢ I/T, no date, bronze, 32mm.	4.00
002	The Driftwood, one beer, blk on wood.	2.00
003	Sourdough Bar, Gordy & Lorene, 25¢ I/T, 32mm, brass.	4.50

### ANCHOR POINT

004	Anchor River Inn, Bob & Julies 75¢ in drinks. Brass, 34mm.	5.00
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### BIRD CREEK

005	Bird House, good for one dropping, brass, 32mm.	5.00
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### FAIRBANKS

006	Arctic Bowl, one free game, pins standing, black on wood.	2.00
007	Gold Pan Trading Post wood (FTR)	2.00
008	Fairbanks Shrine Club wood (FTR)	3.00

### HOMER

009	Bay Side Lounge, 75¢ in drinks, "woody nickel". Red on tan plastic, most legend worn off.	2.00
010	Big George's Down East Saloon, \$2.25 (FTR)	5.00
011	Down East Saloon, \$2.50 I/T (FTR)	5.00
012	Hobo Jim's Alaskan Bar, \$2.50 I/T (FTR)	5.00

### KASILOF

013	Tustumena Lodge, TUIT (FTR)	4.00
-----	-----------------------------	------

### KENAI

014	Eadie's Frontier, Drink \$3.00, 1979.Brs, 32mm	3.00
015	Eadie's Frontier Dollar, red on wood.	2.00
016	Vagabond Inn, one drink, (FTR)	5.00

### KENAI PENINSULA

017	Rainbow or Corea Bar, two types (FTR)	6.00
-----	---------------------------------------	------

### PALMER

018	P.C.C. (Palmer Correctional Center), 25, Alaska Department of Corrections, brass, 24mm. These were reportedly also used at the Wildwood facility.	5.00
-----	---	------

### SOLDOTNA

019	AMVETS Post 4 (FTR)	5.00
020	Dorman Enterprises, black on wood.	2.00
021	Git 'N' Go wood (FTR)	2.00
022	Peninsula Adv. & Office wood (FTR)	3.00

### STERLING

023	Decanter Inn wood (FTR)	3.00
024	The Hilltop, Have a drink on..., set of 3 plastic poker chip type tokens, red, white and blue.	6.00
025	As above, red only.	2.50
026	As above, blue only	2.50

### SEND ORDERS TO:

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VOLUME XIX, NUMBER 8.

AUGUST, 1997.



## THE GREENLAND FOUNDATION OF 1959

by Jørgen Sømod

On January 30, 1959, the newly built Greenland ship Hans Hedtoft was lost at Kap Farvel (Cape Farewell), the southern tip of Greenland, after a collision with an iceberg. All 95 on board perished. A life buoy from the Hans Hedtoft washed ashore in Iceland, and is now on display in the church at Julianhaab, Greenland. The disaster was viewed as a national catastrophe. Newspapers printed up broadsheets to be distributed on the streets of Copenhagen.

The Greenland Foundation 1959 was quickly established to raise money by way of surcharges on coins and postage stamps. A circular dated February 13 was sent to post offices throughout Denmark announcing the coming stamp. By February 23, 1959 a 30 Ore postage stamp was issued, with the "Grønlands-fonden +10" overprint surcharge. A total of 1,860,000 stamps were sold. A Greenlandic stamp was issued the same day with a similar overprint, with a total of 345,000 stamps sold.



Denmark



Greenland

(enlarged)

Harald Salomon, a medallist with the Royal Mint in Copenhagen has left a sketch dated February 10, 1959, showing a proposed 2 Kroner coin. The obverse is the ordinary 2 Kroner, which was used on circulation coins and on the commemorative 2 Kroner coins as late as Princess's Margrethe's 18th birthday in 1958. The reverse is similar to the 2 Kroner issued in 1953 Greenland commemorative, which was sold at a premium in Denmark and Greenland to raise funds to fight tuberculosis in Greenland. The inscription "KALÅTDLIT NUNÅT" on the 1953 2 Kroner is replaced by "GRØNLANDSFONDEN AF 1959." The coin probably would have been struck in silver and sold for 5 Kroner, of which the surcharge would go to the Greenland Foundation.

# EDITORIAL

An interesting short article by Jorgen Somod graces our front page this month. Collectors always "mourn" the lost opportunities when a coin is proposed by not issued. The semi-postal stamps came to fruition, but alas, the coin did not get off the drawing board.

We make use of the index to Gazetteers mentioned in an earlier edition to research some newly reported tokens from the state senator Butrovich collection. These are really neat pieces, but attribution should not be considered positive for the two mavericks. The Crystal Wells token is probably Fairbanks, but the Shucklin token could be from anywhere, probably not Dawson. Can anyone report on Sam's earlier whereabouts or later movements?

This issue is a bit late due to summer rush of business and a little lack of ambition. The next issue will be in mid-September (a September/October issue) with our October auction.

## BUYING - WANTED FOR RESEARCH & RECORDING

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### ALSO WANTED - YUKON - ALASKA - N.W.T.

ALSO WANTED TO BUY ALL LICENCES AND BADGES, PATCHES, TAGS, PLATES - METAL, PAPER, FIBER. URGENT: WE NEED YUKON CHAUFFEURS BADGES. TOP PRICE PAID.

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(exp. #10/96)

# NEWFOUNDLAND 500TH



The St. John's Board of Trade, St. John's, Newfoundland has issued a 33mm nickel bonded steel medal to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the discovery of Newfoundland by John Cabot. Cabot is believed to have landed his 19 meter ship, *Matthew*, at Cape Bonavista, Newfoundland on June 24, 1497. His discovery of Newfoundland opened the Grand Banks and other off-shore areas to cod fishing, especially for French, Portuguese and Spanish fishermen. It was only in 1713 that the British formally established sovereignty over Newfoundland. However, it was not until late in the 18th century that the first wave of British settlers arrived. They participated in the cod fishery.

The obverse of the medal shows an imaginary frontal portrait of John Cabot. No portraits exist of him. Giovanni Caboto was born near Naples, Italy around 1455, and was raised in Genoa where his father was a merchant. With the objective to find a quick route to Asia, John Cabot convinced King Henry VII of England to sponsor his voyage, departing England at the end of May, 1497. The site of his first landing is not known with any certainty. It was either Cape Bonavista, the northern tip of Newfoundland, or the north part of Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia. He planted a wooden cross where he landed, claiming the land for King Henry VII of England. He sailed back to England on August 6th.

In the spring of 1498, Cabot set sail with 5 ships, again with the objective of finding a quick passage to Asia. He died on route to Newfoundland, leaving an Italian wife and three sons.

Lawrence Medallic Art of Mississauga, Ontario struck 60,000 medals on 33mm nickel bonded steel blanks. Of these, 400 were plated in each of the following platings: gold, antiqued silver and antiqued copper. 26 were struck in pure silver, and pure gold medals will be struck to fill orders.

The NBS medal is available for \$2.25 postpaid (plus 7% GST for Canadian orders) from Jim Quinn, P.O. Box 291, Miramichi, NB, Canada E1V 3M4. The plated and silver medals are available from Ray Desjardins, P.O. Box 11447, Station H, Nepean, Ontario, Canada K2H 7V1.

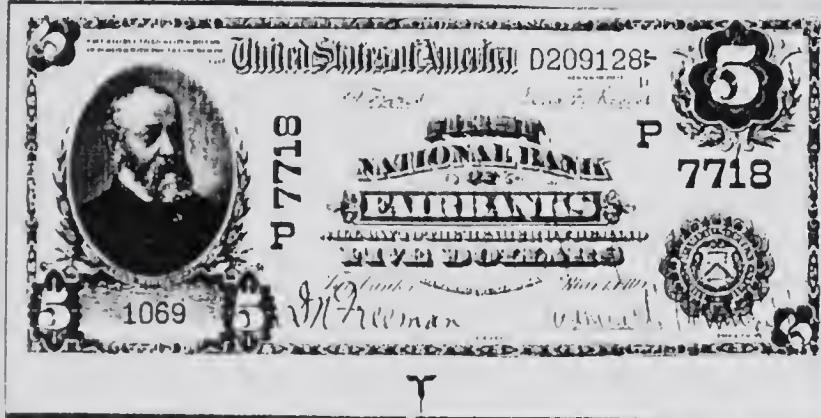
-Jerry Remick

# ALASKA NATIONALS STAR IN LYN F. KNIGHT CURRENCY AUCTION

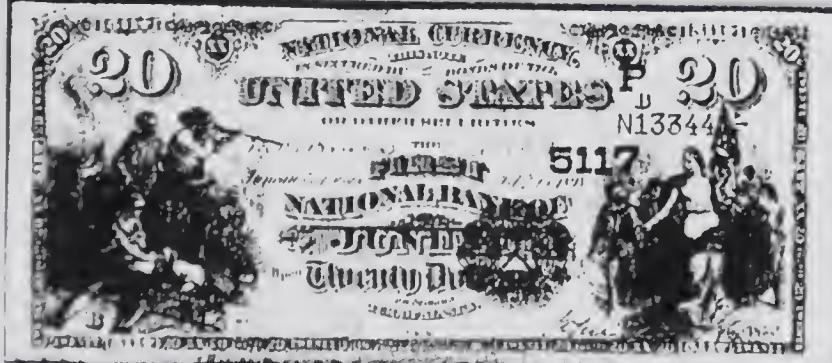
The Lyn F. Knight currency auction held in Memphis on June 21 featured some outstanding examples of U.S. currency. Five Alaskan national bank notes were offered, one note becoming the star of the auction with a selling price (including buyer's fee) of \$93,500! All prices quoted below include the buyer's fee.



Lot 227 was a \$5 note on the First National Bank of Fairbanks, 1902 red seal, Fr. 587. Condition was described as Choice CU. This note was actively sought by several bidders, not only those looking to acquire Alaskan notes. The note bears the serial number "1," a collecting field of its own. Several collectors are attempting to assemble a collection of one note from each state and territory bearing the serial number "1." Estimated at \$25,000 to \$50,000, the final bid was \$93,500..



Lot 228 is the same as the previous lot, but not serial number "1." Condition is CU. A nice note with a wide bottom border. Estimated at \$10,000 to \$15,000, the note sold to the high bid of \$15,400.

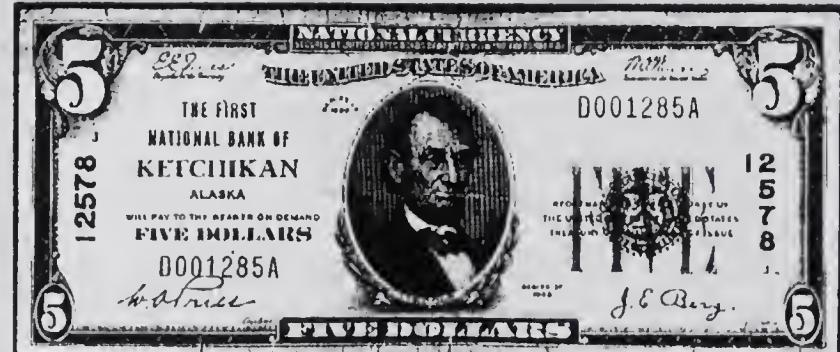


Lot 229 is a \$20 note on the First National Bank of Juneau, 1882 dated back, Fr. 554. Condition was described as VF/Fine. This was considered to be the real rarity of the Alaskan notes offered in this sale. It is the only surviving specimen of the series of 1882 notes

issued by Alaskan banks. Estimated at \$25,000 to \$50,000, the note sold for \$48,400. This was considered by many to be the best buy in the Alaskan portion of the sale.



Lot 230 was another \$20 note on the First National Bank of Juneau, 1902ND, Fr. 658. Condition was described as Fine. A scarce note, this was estimated at \$6,000 to \$12,000. It exceeded the high estimate, closing at \$14,300.



Lot 231 was the last of the Alaskan notes, and the only small size in the offering. A \$5 note issued on the First National Bank of Ketchikan, 1929 Type I, Fr. 1800-1. All Alaskan notes are rare, and this is no exception. It was described as F/VF, "A few edge splits and tears have been professionally restored." This note was estimated at \$5,000 to \$8,000, and sold for \$6,050.

We are pleased to announce that Lots 227, 229, and 230 were purchased by an Alaskan, obviously of substantial means! Lot 231 was the only lot to sell to a mail bidder.



Lastly, the above note is in Lyn F. Knight's August 15-16 auction. It is lot 440, First National Bank of Fairbanks, 1902ND, blue seal, Fr. 598, VF. Contact Knight's office at 800-243-5211 for a catalogue or to place a bid.

# FOR THE RECORD

This month, we bring you an exciting assortment of items from the late State Senator John Butrovich collection. References to dates are from the index to Gazetteers.



**DOUGLAS:** Alaska Drug Company, 6 1/4¢ in trade, brass, 21mm.



**FAIRBANKS:** Supreme Dairy, good for 1 pint milk. Aluminum, 25mm. This is the only known specimen that still has the reverse readable. The other two specimens known are worn smooth.



**FT. WAINWRIGHT:** NCO OM, 50¢ in trade. Brass, 32mm.



**HAINES:** Heller & Co., \$1.00 in trade. Aluminum, 38mm.



**JUNEAU:** F.L. Alstrom, 12 1/2¢ in trade. Octagonal aluminum, 29mm. Fredrick L. Alstrom is shown as a miner in Dawson in 1901-02 and Juneau 1911-12.



**TANANA:** A. Pinkiert, counterstamped "P", 25¢ in trade. Aluminum, 24mm. Very corroded. Aubrey Pinkiert is shown in Dawson in 1905.



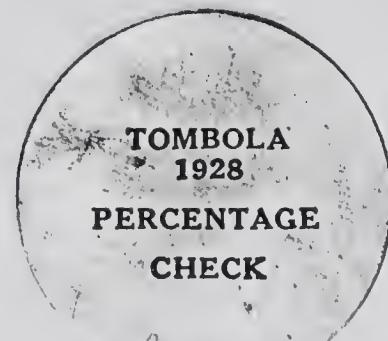
**RUBY CITY:** Louis Spitz, 25¢ in trade. Brass, 24mm. Reported but not illustrated.



**VALDEZ:** Pinzon Co., \$1.00 in trade. Black on pale yellow cardboard, 38mm.



**MAVERICK:** Crystal Well, Fred Musgjerd, One Bucket of Water. Blk on blue cardboard, 38mm. Fred Musgjerd is shown as a miner in Fairbanks from 1907-1912.



**MAVERICK:** Tombola 1928 Percentage Check. Black on yellow cardboard, 38mm. No clue on this one!



**MAVERICK:** At Sam Shucklin, 50¢ in trade. Octagonal aluminum, 29mm. Sam Shucklin was a clerk for Hershberg & Co. in Dawson from 1901-1903.

# DIAMOND TOOTH GERTIE'S



This is a big year for DTG's. They issued a commemorative \$2.50 chip honoring the Dawson Nuggets Stanley Cup Challenge earlier this year, and now they have issued their first slot machine token, a \$1 token that appears to have been made by Green Duck Corp. from Hernando, Mississippi.



Les Hill reported the token about the same time we received our shipment from Dawson. Les calls them brass, but the ones we have appear to be a copper-nickel alloy.

These can be ordered from us. The \$2.50 chip is \$4.50 and the \$1 slot machine token is \$2.50. Include an SASE (mailed at your risk) or \$2.00 for postage and insurance. Send orders to ARC, P.O. Box 72832, Fairbanks, Alaska 99707.

**Alaskan Token Collector & Polar Numismatist**, published 10 times per year, is a publication of Alaska Rare Coin s. All articles remain the property of the authors and may not be reprinted without their consent.

Editor - Dick Hanscom  
 Associate Editor - Jerry Cleworth  
 Anchorage Correspondent - Kurtis Hawk  
 Canadian Correspondent - Jerry Remick  
 Yukon Correspondent - Jim Robb  
 Scandinavian Correspondent - Jorgen Somod

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# PRICE REALIZED

A very short prices realized list this month - 1 item! An Heraldic Arts, Alaska Statehood medal in gold sold for \$487 in Jerome Binsfeld's mail bid, Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin.

## MORE FOR THE RECORD



**JONESVILLE**: Brass tool check. Jonesville was the site of a coal mine. Brass, holed, 26mm. Is this legitimate???



**PALMER**: Palmer Moose Lodge 793, One Drink. Aluminum, 28mm.



**PALMER**: Donut Hut, one free Donut. Black on wood.

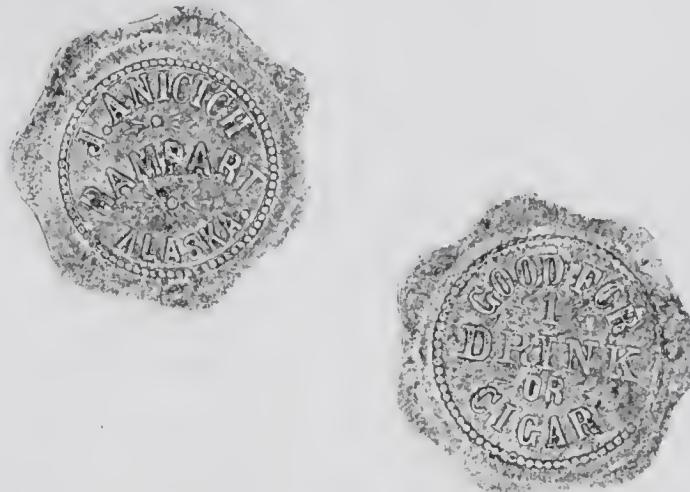


**WILLOW**: Willow Trading Post, Bob & Betty Douglas, One drink at the bar. Blue on wood.

**WANTED: MEDALLIC ART AND ANYTHING ALASKAN/CANADIAN HAVING TO DO WITH DOG SLED RACING. ALSO WANTED OLDER SILVER AND BRONZE ART BARS, ROUNDS, FRANKLIN MINT AND NEON BEER SIGNS. SASE GETS 22 PAGE LIST OF TRADES. AL FISHER, BOX 20565, OAKLAND, CA 94620. TEL. 510-530-8089. (EXP #10/97)**

# J. ANICICH, TANANA & RAMPART!

THE TOWER HOUSE  
J. ANICICH, PROP.  
DEALER IN  
GENERAL MERCHANDISE  
TANANA, ALASKA



A couple of interesting items. An envelope from The Tower House, J. Anicich, prop. in Tanana, and the Anicich token from Rampart (token from the Butrovich collection).



A nice large bronze medal that has been around for 10 years, yet we had not seen it.

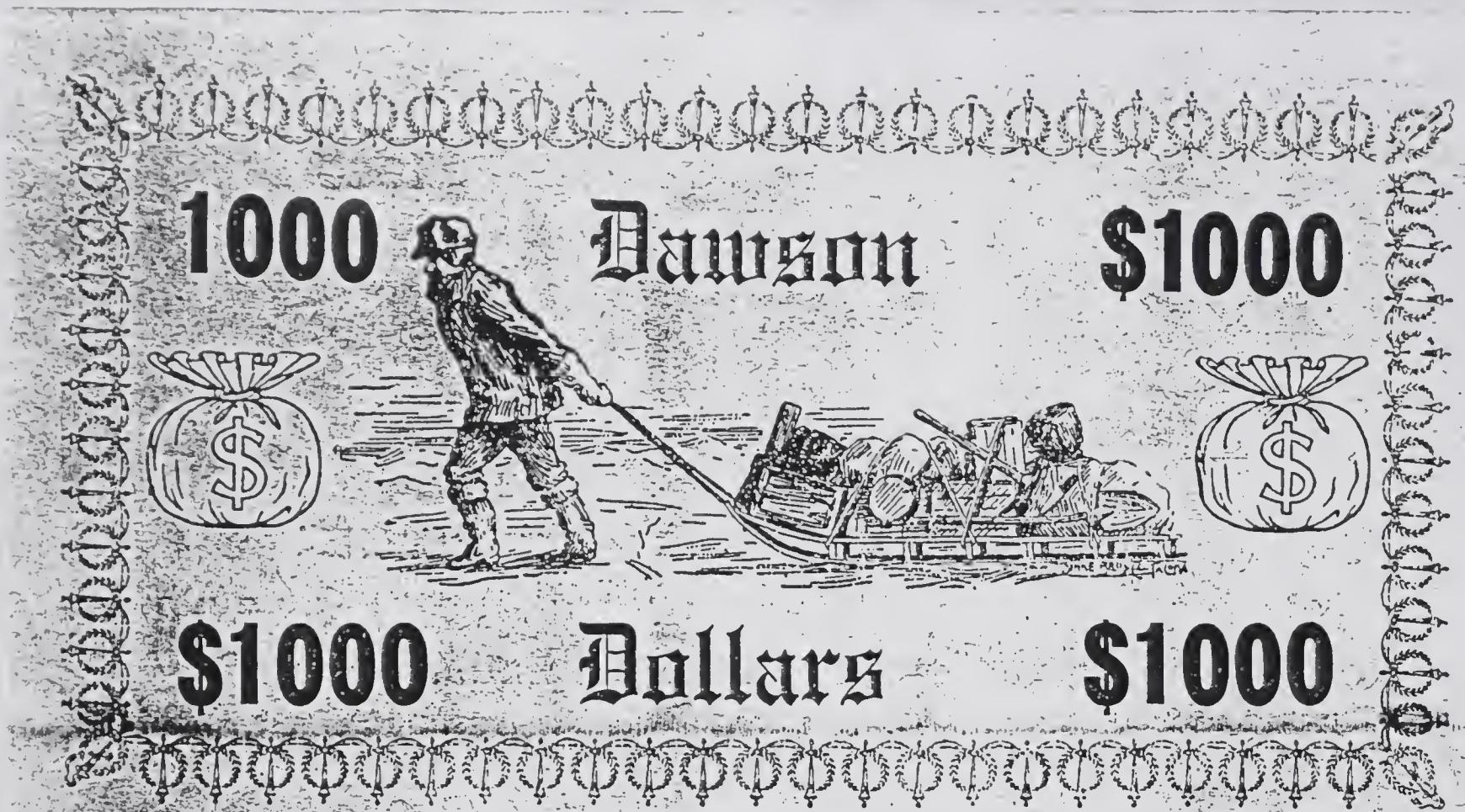
Expected to last 20 years, the Trans-Alaska Pipeline is now expected to last another 20 with only a small decrease in oil flow.

## WANTED: SOURDOUGH JACK 1 OZ. SILVER BAR.

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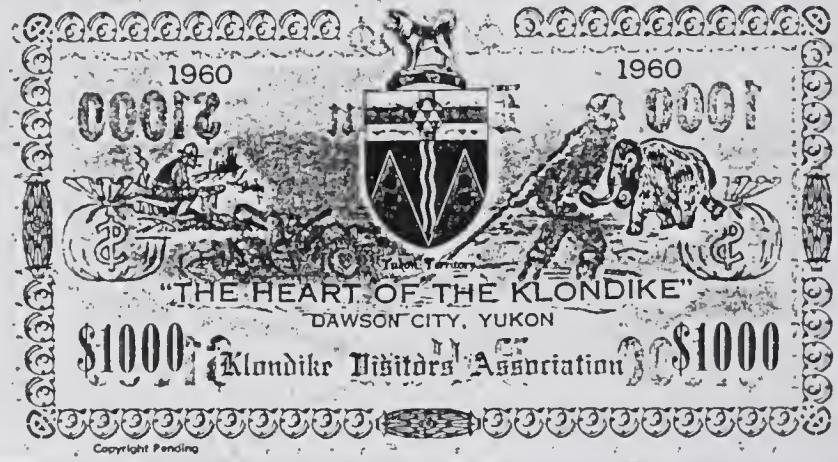
# DAWSON DOLLARS



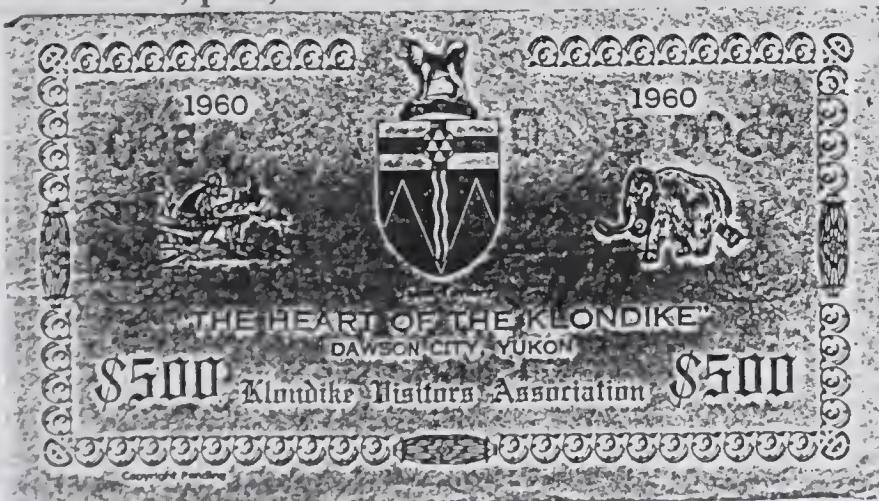
A small quantity of "Dawson Dollars", used in connection with the tourist trade has recently become available to collectors. Illustrated at full size above is the common back. Below are the fronts of the notes, at half size. Note that one is undated, two are dated 1960, while the fourth is dated 1963. All are printed in black on colored paper, approximately 175mm by 96mm.



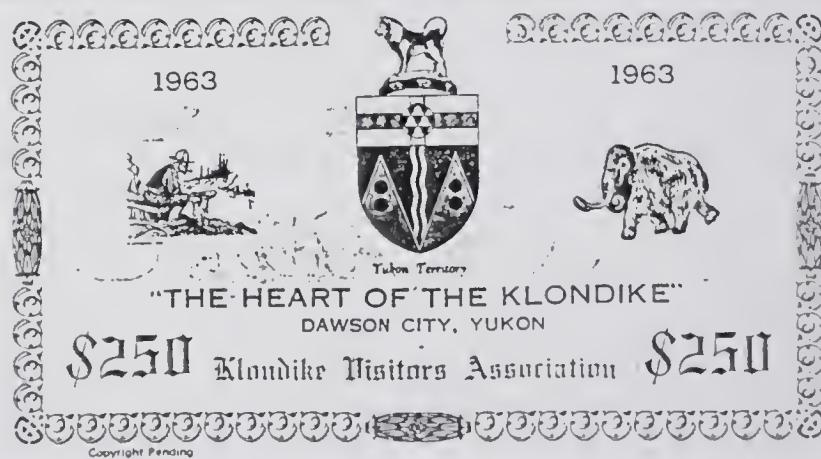
Undated, pink, Klondike Tourist Bureau - \$10



1960, orange, Klondike Visitors Assn. - \$10



1960, green, Klondike Visitors Assn. - \$10



1963, yellow, Klondike Vistors Assn. - \$10

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**360-332-1870**

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VOLUME XIX, NUMBER 9.

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER, 1997.

## BEAR ISLAND

A RARE AND FORGOTTEN NUMISMATIC HISTORY

BY  
AUDEN DAVIDSEN

Bear Island (Bjornoya) is the southernmost of the Spitsbergen islands, lying at 74.5 degrees north and 19 degrees east. The island is 20 kilometers in length and 15.5 kilometers wide (179 square kilometers). It has a triangle shape that is naturally divided in two parts: highlands in the south and lowlands in the north. There are about 700 small and larger lakes. The highlands most picturesque area is the Misery Mountains in the southeast with three precipitous mountains: Urd, Verdande and Skuld. The highest is Urd reaching a height of 536 meters. The island is surrounded by steep cliffs with few places a ship can find a safe harbor. In the south is South Harbor and in the north is Herwig Harbor.

The climate is fairly mild with average temperatures of +4.4C in August and -7.4C in January. A gazetteer from 1918 shows the average temperature was -5.0C, and in June to August +3.0C. The reason for the mild climate at such a high latitude is the Gulf Stream, a warm river of water in the Atlantic Ocean.

There are no glaciers on the island, and plant life consists of about 60 different types of hardy arctic plants as well as moss and lichen. The lakes in the north are small and shallow, but Lake Eila is deep and has plant and fish life (char). Land mammals include the polar fox and the polar bear. There is also many nesting places for sea birds. Razor-billed Auk, Greater Black-backed gull and many other species nest in the cliffs of the mountains. The most famous of these nesting sites is Bird Mountain.

### The history of Bear Island

Bear Island was discovered in 1596 by Willcm Barcntsz, an explorer from the Netherlands who tried to find a shorter way to India! He found large concentrations of walrus and whales in this area. He named the island Beeren Eiland after the polar bear he shot there.



continued on page 61.

## EDITORIAL

This month we are please to bring you an article about the coal mining scrip of remote Bear Island. I first learned of this currency years ago in an auction catalogue where it carried a very high estimate. Needless to say, my bids were not successful. Auden Davidsen has done a fine job for us, giving an historical background for the island as well as information on this short-lived currency.

The Alaskan section of our October 18 auction is enclosed with this issue. While not as outstanding as our last auction, this one features some very rare and desirable pieces. It is an outstanding opportunity to add to your collection. We hope that many of you decide to participate.

There are a few interesting pieces in "For the Record" this month; an NAT&T pin or badge, and a token from the A.Y.T. Co. - a maverick looking for a home!

If things go according to plan, there will be November and December issues, for a total of 11 issues. We promise 10 issues for the year, but do not charge if there is more!

## BUYING - WANTED FOR RESEARCH & RECORDING

CANADIAN & U.S.A. CHAUFFEURS BADGES AND LICENCES, DR. LICENCES, BADGES, PAPER DRIVERS LICENCES, PERMITS, MOTOR VEHICLE & INSPECTION BADGES AND PATCHES, DRIVERS MANUALS & RELATED ITEMS, TAXI & BUS DRIVERS BADGES, LIMOUSINE AND TRANSIT. D.A.V. - WAR AMPS & T.B. VETS KEY TAGS. B.C. ELECTRIC AND OTHER TRANSPORTATION, FIRE ARMS, WARDENS, FORESTRY.

### ALSO WANTED - YUKON - ALASKA - N.W.T.

ALSO WANTED TO BUY ALL LICENCES AND BADGES, PATCHES, TAGS, PLATES - METAL, PAPER, FIBER. URGENT: WE NEED YUKON CHAUFFEURS BADGES. TOP PRICE PAID.

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## BOOK REVIEW

**Jewel on the Yukon Eagle City:** A collection of Essays on Historic Eagle and its People by Elva R. Scott, 1997. Eagle Historical Society and Museums. Paper bound, 184 pages.

This year is the 100th anniversary of the settlement of Eagle. This book is a celebration of these 100 years. As the title implies, it is a series of essays rather than a chronological history.

Chapters are organized around specific subjects. The first chapter gives an overview of the founding of Eagle. Eagle was incorporated as a city in January, 1901, the first incorporated city in the interior of Alaska.

It is followed by chapters on the judicial system, customs, commercial establishments, gold mining, education, mail service, agriculture, churches, social organizations, Han Indians, Fort Egbert, Wamcats and Roald Amundsen. Prominent figures as they relate to the chapter headings are profiled.

Judge James Wickersham is one such subject, appointed judge for the Third Judicial District, headquartered at Eagle in July 1900. He became very prominent in Alaska, including politics. He moved the seat of the Third Judicial District to Fairbanks in 1904 because of the declining population of Eagle.

This is an important contribution to local histories in Alaska, worthy of being an addition to your library. These are available from ARC for \$20 plus \$3 postage and insurance.

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## BEAR ISLAND, continued.

Shortly after, in 1604 English whalers arrived with vessels to catch fish, whales and walrus. They called the island Cherrie Island. The walrus was so heavily hunted that they became extinct on Bear Island in the early 18th century.

Russian whalers were present by the middle of the 17th century, and the Norwegians arrived at the beginning of the 18th century. The Dutch were present from 1899. The island has been explored by several men in the 18th century. The first known is Mr. Keilhau in 1827. Later explorers are Mr. A.E. Nordenskjold in 1898 and Mr. J.G. Andersson in 1899. The first house on the island was built in 1865 by Mr. Sivert Tobiesen's at North Harbor. It was repaired in 1901 and is still standing as the oldest building on Bear Island. A few years later, a Russian cottage was built at Russian Harbor, but it collapsed after a few years. Mr. Ingebrigtsen's whaling establishment was at Walrus Bay (Olgahfen). Mr. Th. Learner constructed three small plank cabins (2 meters square) at Walrus Bay, South Harbor and Coal Bay. These he marked with the company name "Station des Deutschen Seefischerei-Vereins." From 1905 to 1908, whaling was conducted with a receiving station in North Harbor. From 1920 to the present, there has been a rich seasonal fishery for cod.

There has been a Radio and Meteorological station on the island with a permanent crew since 1918. In the spring of 1941, during World War II, the allies destroyed the station and evacuated the personnel. A new station was built 7.5 kilometers from the original station in 1947. This station is still in use and is the only manned station on Bear Island today. The personnel cannot go outside the buildings without a signal pistol. Polar bears are drawn to the building by garbage and the smell of food. They are so accustomed to the human presence that they can be seen daily from the windows of the station. The bears are not easily frightened, but the signal pistol fired in the air makes them keep their distance.

The Spitsbergen Treaty of February 9, 1918 granted sovereignty over the island group to Norway, and Spitsbergen, including Bear Island became a part of Norway. A Russian expedition arrived in 1921, probably to attempt to annex the island. They left when they found Bjornoen Ltd. in full operation. In 1925, the Norwegian government paid a claim of \$30,000 to Germany to recognize Norwegian sovereignty and become a signatory to the treaty of 1918. Norway also paid £18,000 to a private Russian company in 1927. Only in 1935 did Russia recognize Norwegian sovereignty, and become a signatory to the treaty of 1918. This treaty, while granting sovereignty to Norway, granted other countries the right to exploit Spitsbergen's resources. Russia still maintains a coal mine on Spitsbergen. The Norwegian government has recently made a proposal of preservation regulations for Bear Island.

### Mining and Private Currency on Bear Island

As early as 1609, pit coal was found in the northeast part of Bear Island at Tunheim. A coal deposit was tested and examined in 1900 by German scientists. In 1916 a Norwegian mining company, Bjornoen Ltd. began to mine coal. This continued until 1925 when the mines were shut down. The layer masses were too thin, and the price of coal was too low. From 1916 to 1925, 116,094 tons of coal were shipped from Tunheim. There was a maximum of 250 permanent residents on Bear Island.

During 1920/21 and 1923/24, Bjornoen Ltd. encountered financial difficulties, and there was shortage of currency on the island. At this time, they issued emergency currency to pay the workers. The denominations used were 10 and 50 Ore and 1, 5, and 10 Kroner. The two issues were the same, only the hand written year, signature and number were different. The currency is printed on one side, on white paper that is 120mm by 70mm. Different signatures exist (one is Johan Hakenes).

Almost all the notes were placed into circulation and are extremely rare in XF or better. After looking through about 100 Scandinavian auction catalogues from 1959 to 1997, I have only found one set of type II notes (1923/24) sold as about uncirculated. There are, however, some unissued pieces in uncirculated condition. They can have the year, number or both, but lack the signature. All the unissued notes have a low serial number, none over 800. This probably means that the highest numbers were issued first. There are probably less than 400 notes surviving today, and generally the quality is from good to fine. The only dealer in Norway that has a record of these notes is Bodo Mynthandel, eldorsen \* online no. He has generously provided research assistance and the photos that accompany this article.

# BEAR ISLAND, continued.



Denomination	Color	Type I (1920/21)	Type II (1923/24)
10 Ore	Very light blue	1000	1900-4000
50 Ore	Green/blue	2500	2500
1 Krone	Light green	2500	2700
5 Kroner	Light yellow	2000	2000
10 Kroner	Light red	2500	2800
Unissued notes		All under 800	All under 800

## IDITAROD 1997



The Alaska Mint is currently selling the 1997 Iditarod medals for \$100. We have been sold out since the first of the year, until now.

We have acquired two pieces that we can sell at the Alaska Mint's inflated price of \$100, postpaid.

Based upon our experience this year with the Alaska Mint and the Iditarod medal program, we recommend that you purchase the 1998 medal as soon as it is available. This recommendation is not made as investment advice, but only to suggest that if you want the 1998 medal to do so immediately upon issue before the Mint raises the price.

We will buy sufficient stock for our usual customers. Watch this winter's issues of the newsletter. The medals will be offered as soon as they are available.

## SPITSBERGEN

### Arcticugol (Russian Area)

1993 (coins) 10,25,50 and 100 roubles  
 Now withdrawn. UNC 1 set 20.00 5 sets UNC 75.00  
 1,2,3 and 5 kopek (1979) P.NL UNC 1 set 10.00, 5 sets 35.00  
 1 kopek 1961 P.NL, 2 kopek 1961 P.NL UNC ea. 20.00  
 1 rub. (1979) P.NL UNC 8.00

### Store Norske Spitsbergen Kulkompani (Norwegian Area)

10 øre 1925/26	P.NL	XF weak corners	430.00
1931/32	P.NL	VG 300.00, G large tears	100.00
1941/42	P.NL	VF small spot	250.00, AF 150.00
1947/48	P.NL	GF 140.00, F 125.00,	F/VG 100.00
1948/49	P.NL	AVF	225.00
1951/52	P.NL	GF	125.00
50 øre 1948/49	P.NL	F	250.00
1949/50	P.NL	GVF 300.00, VG spots sm.hole	150.00
5 kr. 1970	P.NL	blue stamp AUNC sm.pen spot	120.00
1978	P.NL	UNC 15.00	AU 9.00
10 kr. 1964	P.NL	VG taped tears	220.00
1976	P.NL	UNC	25.00
1976	P.NL	F/VF soiled	5.00
100 kr. 1976	P.ML	F 40.00	VG/F 28.00
1978	P.ML	UNC 140.00, VG/F tears	28.00

### Kings Bay (Norwegian Area)

10 øre 1963/64 P.NL VG filler taped 55.00

**Books:** Currency of Spitsbergen 1992. English and Norwegian text. Many photos 70p 6.00  
 Pricelist Spitsbergen-notes. 1994 Norw. text 28p. 6.00

**Bodø Mynthandel, Box 242, 8001 Bodø, Norway**  
 Fax (24 h) 47 755 10366 E-Mail: eldorsen@online.no

## NFLD \$2 TRADE TOKEN



The Exploits Regional Chamber of Commerce, situated in Grand Falls-Windsor, Newfoundland issued a \$2 municipal token showing the sailing ship *The Matthew* to commemorate the Matthew Visit during the summer of 1997 to their region. A sketch of *The Matthew* in full sail grace the reverse. A pair of smelt is featured on the obverse. The expiry date for the token is Dec. 31, 1997.

Lawrence Medallic Art of Mississauga, Ontario struck 5,000 tokens on 33mm nickel bonded steel blanks and 27 in pure silver. In addition, 150 plated NBS specimens were made in each of the following: gold, antiqued copper and antiqued silver.

The Chamber of Commerce, because of its small staff, is unable to fill mail orders. Specimens are available from Jim Quinn, P.O. Box 291, Miramichi, NB Canada E1V 3M4 as follows: NBS \$2.75; antiqued copper plated \$9; antiqued silver plated \$10; gold plated \$12. All prices are post paid, Canadian orders must include 7% GST.

The recently formed Exploits Regional Chamber of Commerce is based in the town of Grand Falls-Windsor. The Exploits valley is rather large, being about 100 miles in length. Besides the town of Grand Falls-Windsor, it includes 12 other villages and towns, with a total population of over 30,000.

## FTR FEEDBACK

The following is feedback on last month's For the Record.

Alaska Drug Company, Douglas: Owned by R.B. Bell, 1911 Polk and 1912 Dun. Located at 2nd corner of D.

F.L. Alstrom, Juneau: Frederick (Frank) L. Alstrom, Cigars, 249 Front Street, 1915-1917, added confectionary 1918, added billiards 1919-1927.

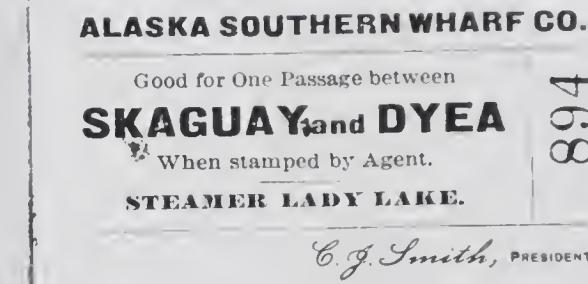
A. Pinkert, Tanana: Aubrey Pinkert (also appears as Pinkert), general merchandise, 1912-1922.

Fred Musgjerd, Fairbanks: Shown as a waterman in the 1915 and 1917 Polk Directories.

-Ron Benice

## TRANSPORTATION

We received the following transportation related items to illustrate in the newsletter.

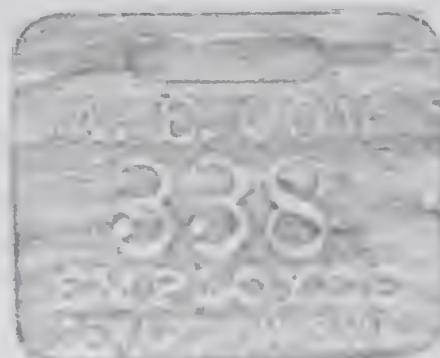


894

**Alaska Southern wharf Co.:** This piece looks familiar, for passage between Skagway and Dyea on the Steamer Lady Lake. Is C.J. Smith the same as the issuer of the Yukon Saloon token from Tanana??? Black on white cardboard.



No explanation was given on these items. Both are black on red cardboard. What does "Brass Lock" mean??



Above is a neat employee chit from the Alaska Engineering Commission for the Seward Division. The A.E.C. built the Alaska Railroad.

## FOR THE RECORD



A.Y.T. Co.: St. Hubert, 25¢, (manufacture's signature - C.A. Klinker, S.F.) brass, 21mm. Attributed to San Francisco (#123) by Kappen. Can anyone find a steamer Hubert or St. Hubert registered to the Alaska Yukon Transportation Co.? (submitted by Ron Lerch).



N.A.T.&T. Co.: Str. Healy, 10¢, 28mm, copper alloy. The reverse has 12mm raised circle with a piece of thin wire attached (13mm). This is probably a broken off pin or wire attachment. To be offered in a Mail Bid Sale by Dick Grinolds, Box 18002, Minneapolis, MN 55418.



CORDOVA: B.P.O.E. (Elks) Lodge No. 1483. Bronze, 32.5mm.



FAIRBANKS: Midnight Sun Baseball Game, Alaska Goldpanners, 1997. Brass, 34mm.



FAIRBANKS: Tanana Lodge No. 3 F. & A.M., Oldest Farthest North Masonic Lodge in North America. Bronze, 34mm.



KETCHIKAN: Swimming Pool tokens; Family Swim, white on blue, 32mm; Ketchikan Swimming Pool, white on green, 31mm; Ketchikan Swimming Pools, white on green, 37mm. All uniface plastic (submitted by Kurtis Hawk).



LADD A.F.B.: Open Mess, gold on red plastic. The gold is very faded, and would not photocopy well. A green plastic is reported, but not this red variety.



PALMER: Palmer Correctional Center, Alaska Department of Corrections, 10 and 25, brass, 17 and 25mm respectively. These were reportedly also used at the Wildwood facility (submitted by Kurtis Hawk).

WANTED: MEDALLIC ART AND ANYTHING ALASKAN/CANADIAN HAVING TO DO WITH DOG SLED RACING. ALSO WANTED OLDER SILVER AND BRONZE ART BARS, ROUNDS, FRANKLIN MINT AND NEON BEER SIGNS. SASE GETS 22 PAGE LIST OF TRADES. AL FISHER, BOX 20565, OAKLAND, CA 94620. TEL. 510-530-8089. (EXP #1097)

# ALASKA RARE COINS

P.O. BOX 72832

551B SECOND AVE.

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**AUCTION: TO BE HELD AT 7:00 P.M., OCTOBER 18TH IN FAIRBANKS.** These are just the Alaskan items. If you want a complete listing, please call or write to the address above. Phone bids may be called in between 10:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., Monday through Saturday.

## ALASKAN TOKENS

Offered below is an assortment of outstanding Alaskan tokens, ranging from scarce to very rare. Most will grade VF-AU. Exceptions are noted. This is the first time that some of these have been offered at public auction. For others, it has been many years since they have appeared. A few more common items are included. If you need these tokens for your collection, do not be bashful, as it will probably be years before they appear again!

223	Annette: Tamgas Harbor Club, Good for One (drink), B-1a. Very scarce.	200.00
224	Bering River: Hoonah Packing Co., 10¢, 25¢ and \$5 I/T, B-1 b,c,f. Scarce location. 3 pieces.	400.00
225	Cape Edwards: Deep Sea Salmon Co., 10 and 50¢ I/M, B-1 b and d. Scarce location. 2 pieces.	350.00
226	(Chicken): Struck & Van Hook, 25¢ I/T, B-1a. Rare, the only token from Chicken.	400.00
227	Douglas: Miner's Saloon, 6½¢ I/T, B-27a. Scarce, probably dug, weak but readable.	200.00+
228	Egegik: Nakat Packing Corp., 5, 10 and 25¢ I/T, B-1 a,b,c. R-7 tokens, all uncirculated.	350.00
229	Ellamar: Ellamar Mining Co., 10¢ I/T, B-1a. Also included is an unlisted aluminum tool check, 30mm, holed at top "E.M. Co.", presumably Ellamar Mining Co.	200.00+
230	Fairbanks: Bredlie's Pool Room, complete set of 3; 12½, 25 and 50¢ I/T, B-8 a-c. Three scarce pcs.	500.00
231	Fairbanks: Brown Derby, complete set of 4; 5, 10, 12½ and 25¢ I/T, B-10 a,b, c and d.	300.00
232	Fairbanks: Chisholm & Hall, 12½ in trade, B-12a. Scarce token	125.00+
233	Fairbanks: Judy's Place, 25¢ I/T, B-30a. We believe that this is the first time this piece has been offered publicly.	75.00+
234	Fairbanks: Northern Cigar Store, complete set of 3; 10 and (2) 25¢ I/T, B-40 a, bI and bII.	200.00
235	Fairbanks: Pastime Cigar Store, complete set of 3; 5, 10 and 25¢ I/T, B-44 a-c. All BU.	30.00
236	Fairbanks: Pioneer Hotel, 5, 10 and 25¢ I/T, B-45 aI, b and c. Three pieces.	100.00
237	Fairbanks: lot of three different Pioneer Wells cardboard tokens. 1) Bensons, B-46a. 2) Tony Hanoff, B-46b. 3) Paul LaPlant, B-46d. Three pieces.	200.00+
238	Fort Yukon: H.E. Carter, complete set of 5; 5, 25 and 50¢, \$1 and \$5 I/T. B-3 a-e. Five pieces.	1000.00+
239	Goodnews Bay: Joe Jean, complete set of 4; 25 and 50¢ and \$1 and \$5. B-1 a-d. Four pieces.	800.00
240	Hoonah: Icy Straits Salmon Co., complete set of 4; 10, 25 and 50¢ and \$1 I/T, B-2 a-d. A nice set, AU or better.	80.00
241	Jonesville: Brass Tool check, first reported in the August 1997 issue of Alaskan Token Collector & Polar Numismatist. We do not know how old this might be.	???.??
242	Kwiguk: Alstrom, complete set of 6; 25 and 50¢, \$1, \$5, and (2) \$10. The aluminum are not as worn as usually found, and they are not damaged. This is a neat set if only because of the two \$10 tokens. One is triangular, while the other is round, red fiber. Not rare, but a popular set.	125.00
243	Nenana: The Arctic, complete set of 2; 25 and 50 (¢ I/T), B-1 a and b. R-8, very rare. Two pcs.	600.00
244	Nome: Board of Trade, 12½¢ I/T, B-8eI. Clover central hole.	175.00
245	Northern Commercial Co.: Lower Yukon Stations, 50¢ I/M. B-4c. Very rare, uncirculated.	350.00
246	Nulato: Pop Wolly, 25¢ I/T, B-4a, holed. Benice plate token.	350.00
247	Odiak: W. Storey, no denomination, B-1a. Worn, 100% readable. Only token from this location.	400.00+
248	Port Heiden: Port Heiden Packing Co., 50¢ I/T, B-1c. Nice pictorial with two crossed fish. Light corrosion. Very scarce token, from the only token issuer from this locality.	400.00
249	Port Heiden: Port Heiden Packing Co., \$1 I/T, B-1d. Again a nice pictorial with two crossed fish.	500.00
250	Savoonga: Reindeer Commercial Co., complete set of 8 tokens from 1 cent to \$10.	85.00
251	Skagway: McCready & Elliot, complete set of 7; 5¢ to \$10, B-16 a-g. McCready & Elliot are a bit of a mystery. They cannot be found in any of the directories!	175.00
252	Skagway: Mascot Saloon, 12½¢ I/T, B-17c. A more common saloon token.	100.00
253	Skagway: Seattle Saloon, 12½¢ I/T, B-23a. Another, scarcer saloon token.	150.00
254	Takotna: K.C. Co., Tacatna (Kuskokwim Commercial Co.), 25¢ I/T, B-2a. Benice plate token. Rare.	400.00
255	Takotna: Tacotna Cigar Store, 25¢ I/T, B-3a. R-8 and very rare.	450.00

# ALASKA TOKENS, CONT.

ESTIMATE

256	<b>Thane:</b> Dug's Place, 6½¢ I/T, B-3a. R-8.	250.00
257	<b>Thane:</b> Dug's Place, 12½¢ I/T, B-3b. Square aluminum, R-8.	250.00
258	<b>Tolovana:</b> Henry W. Martin, 25¢ I/T, B-1a. Dug, bubbled surfaces, readable. Rare.	300.00
259	<b>Valdez:</b> Copper Block Buffet, 12½¢ Trade Check, B-4a. Very nice EF.	50.00
260	( <b>Valdez:</b> ) Hotel St. Elias, 12½¢ I/T, B-19a. Large octagonal token with value cut-out. A rare and attractive piece.	300.00
261	<b>Wacker:</b> Wacker Stage Line, Good for 25-Cent Fare, B-T2aII. Hand altered to 10 Cent Fare, but the reverse is not signed. A variety of the variety.	100.00

## The following is an assortment of scarce Alaskan medals.

262	<b>Alaska</b> , In Celebration of the Bicentennial, 1976. Set of three, all with Alaska map on the obverse. Silver (Liberty Bell), bronze (Spirit of '76) and zinc (eagle and bell). These were made by the same firm that made the Pipeline medal set offered in this auction. In case of issue.	30.00
263	<b>Alaskan Command</b> , Keystone of the North, 1972. Sterling silver, #118.	30.00
264	<b>Alaskan Comm. Region</b> , Alaska Purchase Centennial, 1967. Sterling silver, #25 (of 25 minted?).	75.00
265	<b>Alaska Purchase Centennial</b> , flags flanking map of Alaska. Reverse is gold panner and legend North to the Future. Silver is #4 (of 25), the brass and bronze are also #4. 3 pcs.	75.00
266	<b>Anchorage</b> , Totem Coin Club, 1968, Second State Coin Convention. Set of sterling silver and bronze, both #5.	50.00
267	<b>Anchorage</b> , Golden Anniversary, 1970, Pages of Progress. Silver and bronze, both #534.	25.00
268	<b>Anchorage</b> , Arctic Winter Games, 1974. Sterling silver (#463) and brass.	30.00
269	<b>Fairbanks</b> , North Star Enterprises, 1963, \$2 Cheechako Grubstake. Sterling silver, #37. Only 49 were minted.	75.00
270	<b>Fairbanks</b> , North Star Enterprises, 1963, \$2 Cheechako Grubstake. Sterling silver, #49 of only 49 minted.	100.00
271	<b>Homer</b> , Museum Centennial Souvenir, 1967. Silver (#239) and bronze (#737).	20.00
272	<b>Hope</b> , Hope Gold Strike 1894, Alaska Purchase Centennial 1967. Set of 3 in silver, bronze and brass, all with a small gold nugget, all serial #11. Only 100 numbered sets were issued. In custom plastic holder.	150.00
273	<b>Hope</b> , Hope Gold Strike 1894. The same set as above, but only the silver has a small nugget. All medals are #65. Only 100 numbered sets issued. In custom plastic holder.	125.00
274	<b>Juneau</b> , Centennial, 1980, map and totem design. Silver and bronze, both #32.	30.00
275	<b>Ketchikan</b> , Elks 1429, 1967 Purchase Centennial. 45 years of service. Set of sterling silver (#250) and copper nickel.	25.00
276	<b>Kodiak</b> , Beachcombers, 1967, good for one drink. Set of silver and brass, both #36.	50.00
277	<b>Nenana</b> , Nenana Dog Mushers Association/Nenana Ice Classic, 1977. Silver (#110) and bronze.	40.00
278	<b>North Pole</b> , Santa Claus House souvenir dollars, 1963, 1964-65, 1966 and 1967, sterling silver and brass. The first three silver medals are #85, the fourth is un-numbered as are all the brass. This set is surprisingly elusive. A total of 8 pieces.	120.00
279	<b>Portage</b> , Portage Glacier Lodge, Home of Million Year Old Ice/ Good for one ice worm cocktail at our Gold Rush Bar. Set of two, silver and brass, both number 11.	75.00
280	<b>Seward</b> , Mt. Marathon Race, 1966. Fine silver and bronze, both un-numbered.	25.00
281	<b>Seward</b> , Silver Salmon Derby, August 1969, Good Fishing (Billiken). Sterling silver (#18) and un-numbered bronze.	25.00
282	<b>Sitka</b> , Chamber of Commerce trade dollar, 1963. Un-numbered silver.	30.00
283	<b>Sitka</b> , Chamber of Commerce trade dollar, 1963. Un-numbered silver. Same as last lot.	30.00
284	<b>Sitka</b> , First Airmail Flight, Alaska Coastal Airlines, Dec. 14, 1966. Silver-clad, mintage 610 by the Franklin Mint.	25.00
285	<b>Tustumena Lake Area</b> , Big T, 1967 Purchase Centennial. Silver (#11) and bronze (#267). Scarce.	50.00
286	<b>Alaska Purchase Centennial:</b> Set of large silver and bronze medals by Medallie Art Co. Very high relief, typical of this company. The obverse is a bust of Seward and the legend "North to the Future." The reverse has the official Purchase Centennial Totem that depicts, starting at the bottom, a Russian church, American Eagle, a gold panner, train and 49th star. While it may appear that the native people are absent, they are represented by the totem itself. While this totem design is present on over a hundred lesser medals, this depiction, with the flag and mountains in the background make this one of the most attractive of all Alaskan medals. The silver medal contains over 5 oz. of pure silver. Housed in a Capital Plastics case.	150.00+
287	<b>Alaska Earth Quake, 1964:</b> Set of 3 medals; silver, silver-plate and bronze, 50mm, 4mm thick. We can uncover no information on these impressive medals. The obverse shows various locations in Alaska, and reports on the damage sustained. The reverse has a Biblical verse inside a wreath. We offered this on a fixed price list at \$300 with no takers. Now, let the market decide!	300.00
288	<b>Eskimo Olympics, Uniface Patterns, 1965.</b> The obverse only, with the 6 rings on the polar bear. This set is possibly unique. We have seen no others. Three medals in bronze, silver or silver-plate, and gilt or brass.	300.00
289	<b>Trans-Alaska Pipeline Medals, 1974-1977.</b> This is the set of 12 pure silver medals that was so popular during the pipeline years. Each medal shows some phase of pipeline construction. Also included is a "mule" of medal number 6, using the reverse die from medal number 5. In the original wooden case made specially for these medals. A few of the capsules are cracked allowing the medals to tone. We remember when these sets and cases first became available, the capsules were just too tight. We would put a medal in, and 5 minutes later here the dreaded "crack." While these are not rare sets, they are selling below their original issue price, and thus not coming back onto the market.	230.00

290	<b>Alaskan Medals:</b> (2) Alaska Flag, 1958 / 49 Star U.S. Flag, bronze; (5) Alaska Earth Quake 1964, Map/Richter scale, bronze; (2) Alaska Purchase Centennial, Bear on Map/ (totem pole) The Greatest Purchase Ever Made, set of brass and bronze, #89. A total of 9 medals.	45.00
291	<b>Alaska Silver Anniversary</b> , 1984. The last of our medals commemorating the 25th anniversary of Alaskan statehood. Big Dipper and "sun" obverse, our popular "Denali" reverse. These have been in the store for 12 years, and are no longer "perfect." Originally sold at \$25 each, these last four pieces should sell for a little less than that.	60.00
292	<b>Gold Elongated Token</b> , Gold panner design. This piece was made in Fairbanks by Bert Samsa about 1988. It is rolled on a 24 Kt. Franklin Mint Presidential Series medal. If memory serves us, 10 or 12 were done, and two were not satisfactory, and melted. This piece exhibits weakness on the last "A" of Alaska. Much of the original design is visible on the reverse, in this case William H. Harrison, 9th President. Weight is just over 3 DWT of pure gold.	100.00+
293	<b>State of Alaska 1 oz. Gold Medal</b> , 1989. The state authorized the striking of silver and gold medals through House Bill #10. The program first started in 1989 with Alaska Precious Metals receiving the contract. Unlike current years, these early years had different designs for the silver and gold medals. The gold medals were designed by Katie Tony and only 161 of the 1 ounce medals were struck featuring an Eskimo and the Big Dipper. The state seal is on the reverse as mandated by legislation. APM went bankrupt in 1991. This is the first full ounce gold medal we have handled since 1990 and is still housed in its original wood case along with the original invoice.	1,200.00+
294	<b>State of Alaska Proof Silver Medal</b> , 1989. Housed in the original box. Only 1,700 Proof medals were struck in the first year. It is difficult to tell the Proofs from the Proof-likes, but the easiest way is to check the waterlines on the obverse. The Proof has many more of them, especially on the right side in front of the bear's nose.	100.00+
295	<b>Serum Run</b> , 1996. The first medal struck for the race that commemorates the original serum run from Nenana to Nome. Struck by the Alaska Mint. In original case. Currently retailing at...	70.00

## ALASKANA

296	<b>Irish Motorcycle Race Medals.</b> Now how can this be Alaskan, you ask. All but two of these medals were issued to Jeff Studdert, well known dog racer, for whom Studdert Race Grounds are named. Issued by the Dublin District, Drogheda & District, Rugga-Ruggas, Dublin University and Leinster Motor Cycle Clubs. Two are issued to Studdard (probably a misspelling), and two to J.F. Bush and one to Jeff Bush (an alias??). The remaining 4 are issued to J. Studdert. Two pieces are 9 Karat gold, three are silver and four are bronze, four are enameled. Gold value alone is nearly \$100. This lot must be seen to be appreciated. A total of 9 medals.	200.00+
297	<b>O'Harra Bus Lines Alaska's Trail Blazer:</b> Metal Sign, 48.5 by 30 inches. A bit difficult to read, but there is no mistaking this one. For those of you who purchased a cardboard token from this bus line, here is your chance to own something unique to go with it. An outstanding piece to compliment any transportation token collection.	250.00+
298	<b>Obsolete Bank Cash Bags.</b> Draw string bags from the Alaska National Bank and First National Bank of Fairbanks. Zipper bags include an Alaska Statebank and a neat First National Bank of Fairbanks with a picture of the bank on the bag. Finally, a cloth bag from Alaska Precious Metals of Anchorage. All of these institutions are now history. Five bags.	50.00+
299	<b>Alaska License Plates</b> , 1956. A set of two license plates, unused, in the original mailing envelope. These are mint and could not be any nicer. White on blue, with blue backs (a very odd shade), number T/K 19957, so these were for a truck. The envelope is worn, but all there, with the original mailing label to Hot Springs, Alaska. This was an early name for Manly Hot Springs. The postage meter, for 8¢, is dated May 6 '57. This is a rare opportunity to obtain a pair of territorial plates in the original Department of Taxation envelopes.	300.00+
300	<b>Picturesque Alaska.</b> A nice booklet of 12 pages of Alaskan views. Printed on stiff paper, copyright 1888. Printed by the Albertype Co. of New York. Stamped on the title page "Edward deGroff, Portraits and Views of Alaska Scenery, Sitka & Juneau - Alaska. Nice red cover, bound at the side with heavy string (as a photo album).	75.00+
301	<b>Alaskan Articles:</b> Articles taken from various publications as follows: <u>McClure's</u> - "Ho, for the Klondike" by Hamlin Garland; "Future of North Polar Exploration" by Dr. Fridtjof Nansen; and "Letters from the Andree Party," all circa 1898. <u>Century</u> - "Pioneer Packhorses in Alaska", 1892. <u>Outlook</u> - "The Cape Nome Gold Fields" by C. Edgar Lewis, April 1900. <u>Harpers</u> - "The Fur Seal Millions on the Pribylov Island," 1874 and "The Passing of the Fur-Seal" by Henry Loomis Nelson, 1896. <u>Scribner's Magazine</u> , October 1917 issue with "The Mount McKinley National Park" by Belmore Browne. Interesting early accounts of Alaska and the polar regions. A total of 7 articles and one complete magazine.	50.00+
302	<b>Fairbanks Flood Newspaper.</b> In August 1967, Fairbanks suffered a massive flood. The September 14 issue of the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner was a special flood issue, with sections showing the damage and another section showing the recovery. A great paper with outstanding photos.	25.00+
012	<b>Denmark 2 Kroner, Greenland Commemorative</b> , 1953, AU-BU. Attractive and popular coin with a map of Greenland. This coin was sold at a premium, profits from the sale going to fight tuberculosis in Greenland.	30.00

A.R.C.I. • P.O. Box 72832, Fairbanks, Alaska 99707 • (907) 452-6461 • Subscription \$10.00/year  
VOLUME XIX, NUMBER 10.

DECEMBER, 1997.



## SNAKE PIT DOWNS



"Announcing our First Act," the advertisement in The Daily Alaska Empire, September 17, 1949 for The Snake Pit let the people of Juneau know that a new place of entertainment had opened. Formerly the old Northern Bar, the new owners were Gordy Kanouse, Chuck Gray and Gene Lockridge. They promised continuous performances until 2 a.m. Featured performers were Bill Willman, the famous fire eater and Albert Peterson and his accordion. No mention is made of "the races."

An ad on September 1, 1950 invites everyone to their first birthday party. Albert Peterson is still there with his accordion. A new feature in the ad is "Night races as usual...watch the thoroughbreds run." So some time in the first year, the Snake Pit began their night races. But what was raced? All the advertisements indicate that they were thoroughbreds, and that "This is truly the Sport of Kings." And the Daily Racing Form states "Live Thoroughbreds --- No Quarterbreeds Are Entered." The Daily Racing Form also lists the "horse" and jockey. So, it sound like horses. See the advertisements reproduced on page 70.

But Loren Stephens of Juneau knows better.

"I lived right above the Snake Pit in the Home Hotel. When the "sport of kings" thoroughbred racing was going on the yelling and shouting taking place was horrendous. Since the establishment lasted for a little longer than a year I was able to survive the disturbances.

"As I was only 19 years old and was never inside this palace of thoroughbred racing, I never saw the racing action. However, many have told me that the thoroughbred steeds were Guinea Pigs."

The Snake Pit burned down in November of 1950. There were two fatalities and other injuries. But no mention is made of the livestock. Such blatant disregard for these furry creatures is inexcusable.

Frankly, folks, your editor is skeptical. My children breed long-haired, Peruvian guinea pigs. We are talking best of show at the Tanana Valley State Fair guinea pigs. These really are sweet creatures, and I cannot envision them being used for racing. However, they are easily trained where food is concerned (crinkle a plastic bag in our house, the kind you bring groceries home in, and they go nuts squeaking and whistling).

So here is my challenge. I want a first hand witness account of this activity, and I am serious. I want to know how the races were run, what kind of enclosure was used, and an estimate of how many guinea pigs were used. Photos would be outstanding. Then we can give this subject the coverage it really deserves.

Hey, the rabbit and cavy (guinea pig) club didn't like my idea of a "market" guinea pig category, so maybe they would go for the races!

## EDITORIAL

We had planned on an extra issue this year, but because of other business requirements (and a baseball trip to Phoenix), that 11th issue was not possible. So, we delayed the next issue (this one) a little bit, put together a 13 page price list (in place of an illustrated Christmas Shopper), and hope this will make everyone happy.

The big news is that we have an e-mail address. You may use that for casual correspondence, to place orders or to places bids in future auctions. Test it out and say hello. We will e-mail back, and add your e-mail address to our file.

e-mail: [akcoins@mosquitonet.com](mailto:akcoins@mosquitonet.com)

On a sad note, due to health problems, John Hnatiuk is liquidating his immense collection of police and fire memorabilia. See his ad on this page and send him \$2 for what promises to be an interesting list. We wish John the best.

It is that time of year we try to thank, by name, all those who have contributed information to the newsletter over the last 10 issues. Our deepest apologies if we miss any one. In order of appearance, our thanks go to the following:

Fred Zinkann  
Jerry Remick  
Al Fisher  
George Kritchen  
Lee Poleske  
John Hnatiuk  
Jim Robb  
Les Hill  
Kurtis Hawk  
Bill Becht  
Ron Benice  
Bryan Cleary  
Karl Ward

Stephen Alpert  
Candy Waugaman  
David Ways  
John Cheramy  
Loren Stephens  
Bob Lyall  
Alan Weinberg  
Mike Patton  
Jorgen Somod  
Audun Davidsen  
Ron Lerch  
Dick Grinolds

Please look at your mailing label. If the first line has 97/10, then it is time to renew. Some of you already have done so, thinking the 10 referred to October but it refers to the # of the issue. We do thank you for your early renewal. An order blank is enclosed.

If your mailing label ends with 98/??, your renewal notice will be marked to extend your subscription through the end of 1998. This just makes my life easier. If you do not want to do this, a reminder will be sent when your subscription expires. If you choose not to renew, now or at a later date, we would like to thank you for your support. If you are not re-subscribing because of some failing of ours, please drop us a note and let us know.

There is always room for improvement, and we take all serious suggestions seriously.

An index for 1997 is enclosed with this issue, as is a new price list. If either of these are not included, please let us know.

As always, we are in need of information for the newsletter. If you have an article, space filler, or item "For the Record," please share this with other readers. We try to give appropriate credit on your subscription, but realize we have failed to do so at times. A not so gentle reminder would be in order.

A few possible articles for the future include Alaskan Masonic medals and a medal from the Shetland Islands. More are always welcome and needed.

Finally, our thanks to all who have supported this effort during our 19th year. It is hard to believe that the next issue of this newsletter will begin our 20th year. I am too young to have been doing this for that long. That's my story and I'm sticking to it!

## CLOSING OUT SALE!

Due to health problems, we wish to liquidate our entire Police badges, patches, Fire Dept., etc. collection; From our 14 years of research and recording all B.C. forces going back to the 1900s to date. Most all are one of a kind. We offer approximately

165 different B.C. Police badges

325 different B.C. patches

55 different B.C. Corrections, Security, Railway Police patches,

PLUS

50 different Canadian Police badges

55 different B.C. Fire Dept. patches

55 different Commonwealth & European patches & badges

300 different U.S.A. patches and badges

50 R.C.M.P. and R.N.W.M.P patches and badges

70 different R.C.M.P. and B.C. Police buttons

**MAIL BID SALE #16 WILL BE HELD THIS WINTER IF ALL GOES WELL HEALTHWISE. SEND FOR YOUR FREE CATALOGUE #16 TODAY (\$2 FOR POSTAGE, PLEASE). MANY PHOTOS WITH ESTIMATES.**

JOHN HNATIUK  
P.O. BOX 4944  
VANCOUVER, B.C.  
CANADA V6B 4A6  
PHONE (604) 596-6303  
FAX (604) 596-6343

(exp. #198)

## SNAKE PIT DOWNS, cont.



**GOOD TIME?**

-----come to our 1st

# BIRTHDAY PARTY

... THIS WEEKEND ...

- Free Flowers for the Ladies
- Albert Peterson and his accordion
- Bob Sarver sings your favorites
- Night races as usual...watch the thoroughbreds run

**We sincerely thank ...**

our many patrons who in the past year have helped to make the Snake Pit a success. We hope you will all drop in often as we go into our second year.

GORDY, CHUCK and GENE

**The**  
**SNAKE PIT**  
SO. FRANKLIN ST.

DAILY ALASKA EMPIRE: SEPT. 1, 1950

It's going to be the biggest weekend yet at the Snake Pit Bar . . . . .

Featured Attraction



**HARRY HAMILTON**

(Famous up-and-down the coast)

Makes our new piano do all but talk

ALSO ----- Bob Sarver sings your favorites

2nd Big Hit



The Thoroughbreds Race Again at  
**Snake Pit Downs**

This is truly the "Sport of Kings"



The

**SNAKE PIT**

SO. FRANKLIN ST.



DAILY ALASKA EMPIRE: SEPT. 22, 1950

# Snake Pit Downs

Featuring



"Sport of Kings"

# NIGHT RACES

Watch the live thoroughbreds run

Scandinavian Music by Albert Peterson and His Accordion

SONGS by BOB SARVER

DAILY ALASKA EMPIRE: DATE NO KNOWN

# FOR THE RECORD



ANCHORAGE: Pioneers of Alaska, 80th Convention, 1996, 1 oz. silver.



DOUGLAS: Hunte Hotel, 6 1/4¢ in trade, brass, 21mm. Apparently, a die-sinker's error for the Hunter Hotel (submitted by Alan Weinberg).



(HAINES): The Wild Strawberry, good for one free cup of coffee. Metallic red on white plastic, 41mm.



KETCHIKAN: Pioneers of Alaska, 81st Convention, 1997, 1 oz. silver.

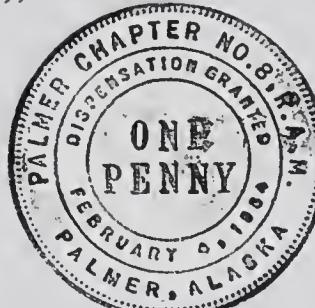


KETCHIKAN: 81st Pioneer Convention (Pioneers of Alaska), blue on wood.

MATANUSKA VALLEY: Heartland of Alaska, 1 oz. silver.



PALMER: (Moose) Palmer Lodge 793, good for one drink, 1978, brass or aluminum (sorry, didn't write it down), 34mm.



PALMER: Masonic Penny, B-3a. Listed, not illustrated.

## ALASKAN CABS

Phone 777

12 5 c

In Fare

MAVERICK: Alaskan Cabs, phone 777, 25c in fare. Black on tan with blue threads, 52mm by 27mm (submitted by Ron Benice).

Now that we have an e-mail address, we also have been out on "the net." After writing the front page, I did a search for "guinea pig races" and actually found two references to them. Both were in Australia, one about a guinea pig that did the 10 meter hurdles in 2.5 seconds! I am currently trying to get more information.

I still want a first hand account of the guinea pig races at The Snake Pit! So, you long time Juneau residents - hop to it!!! And if you haven't lived in Juneau since 1950, ask around. There has to be some one that remembers. And there may even be a photo.

# COLLECTOR ER

## ALASKAN TOKENS

## POLAR NUMISMATIST

A.R.C.I. • P.O. Box 72832, Fairbanks, Alaska 99707 • (907) 452-6461 • Subscription \$10.00/year

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### VOLUME XIX

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